

THE JOURNAL

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Sports Cougar girls are league volleyball champs — again [C1]

Arts Hawaiian slack key guitar master coming to town [C3]


POTTER is getting attention from all sides since being elected to the El Cerrito City Council earlier this month.

Newcomer at center of attention

Supporters say new EC councilwoman is an independent thinker, but she questions election administration on her behalf

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — When Sandi Potter is sworn in as a City Council member Dec. 2, there will be celebration, but there may also be bitter feelings left from a campaign that got her elected.

Not all residents favor Potter's commitment to creating housing

on San Pablo Avenue. Some would rather see more commercial development there.

Generous contributions from developers during Potter's campaign have some residents calling for an investigation by the city attorney and for city campaign contribution limits.

Those who know her say Potter is an independent thinker, committed to the city's well-being, who will not be swayed by the contributions of developers.

Continuity of service

Potter sees her election to the council as an extension of the service she has provided to the

city's Planning Commission for the last six years. A state-certified geologist, she joined the commission in 1996 to offer her expertise in drafting and interpreting environmental documents.

Her toughest and perhaps most significant role on the commission was voting in favor of a use permit that allowed plans for revitalizing the north end of El Cerrito Plaza.

While admitting the plaza isn't aesthetically perfect, she said the "yes" vote was a good decision that brought the shopping center back to life. It was also divisive: During a time when the

commission rarely disagreed, there was a split vote, 5-1, on the issue.

"There's a lot of stuff there that benefits the community," Potter said. "Restaurants, the bookstore and shops we wouldn't have had if we had not approved the project."

Campaign questions

When it comes to development on San Pablo Avenue, however, some, including Planning Commission chairwoman Bea O'Keefe, have said they fear Potter's commitment to housing

See POTTER, Page A10

Advocates make plea on Gill Tract

■ Meeting focuses on uses alternatives as UC plans new University Village housing

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Residents eager to save a plot of land used by UC Berkeley for agricultural research came out in force Tuesday at a meeting intended to discuss concerns over plans to rebuild housing at University Village.

The university is planning to rebuild 152 units of 1940s-era housing on 26 acres along San Pablo Avenue at University Village and wanted public input on

which of two design teams it should pick to go forward with the plan. The university wants to build new housing to attract graduate students and faculty, according to UC Berkeley planner Jeff Bond.

More than 100 people attended the meeting, presided over by the Albany City Council, the city's Planning and Zoning Commission and university officials.

In both proposals, baseball fields now at Monroe Avenue and 10th Street would be moved to the Gill Tract at San Pablo Avenue and Buchanan Street, which for years has been used

See GILL, Page A10

Gateway property will become city's

■ Parcel will be bought, restored with the help of a Coastal Conservancy grant

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — A blighted piece of land at the north end of the Ohlone Greenway will soon fall into the hands of the city for restoration.

At its meeting Monday the council approved 5-0 an agreement to accept a \$350,000 Coastal Conservancy grant and spend \$50,000 of the city's

money to buy and restore the property, which has a 650-foot stretch of Baxter Creek running through it.

The vote caps years of effort by those such as Friends of Baxter Creek, an advocacy group formed in the 1990s to keep a supermarket from being built on the 1.64-acre parcel.

The lot is between Conlon and San Pablo avenues and Key Boulevard. On the border with Richmond, it is considered a city "gateway." Buying the property

See GATEWAY, Page A9

Educators unshaken by seismic report

Officials say campuses juggle many issues that seem far more menacing than a quake

By Kara Shire

STAFF WRITER

East Bay educators reacted pragmatically this week to a long-delayed state report that showed some 7,500 unnamed California public school buildings could crumble in a major quake.

The report, while worrisome, was not a surprise to many school district officials, who said they already knew seismically weak buildings were within the list of major Bay Area fault zones.

But with countless safety concerns weighing them down, the release of the Seismic Safety Inventory of California Public Schools did little to push earthquake safety concerns to the forefront.

"For someone to report we have seismic risks in our schools, I knew that," said Glen Price, West Contra Costa school board member.

Added James Anderson, assistant director of safety and operations for Pittsburg schools: "There's a long list of other worries right now. Working with schools, there's always something to be worried about, so you have to just pick and chose."

Indeed, from the modern-day threat of terrorism to the ever-present fret of Columbine-style violence, schools juggle myriad safety concerns that feel far more imminent than an earthquake.

"I would say seismic structure of a building is kind of taking ... I would hate to say a back seat, but being that we haven't had an earthquake in a while, there are other things that people are trying to stay on top of," Anderson said.

Others were confused by the state's highly technical, almost cryptic analysis. The study did not name schools, or even regions, where questionable buildings were located.

Instead, the safety inventory focused on building types used in school construction before 1978. Fourteen types were considered to be the least earthquake ready.

Dick Nicoll, assistant superintendent for Mt. Diablo schools, said he could only guess if his district's aging campuses were among those needing retrofits.

"These methods they may consider less safe were ones (the state) approved," Nicoll said. "Now they come back and tell us no. I just don't know."

With U.S. Geological Survey engineers predicting a 70 percent chance of a 6.7 magnitude or greater tremor along the Bay Area's four faults by 2030, some question the public's seemingly

nonchalant attitude toward the seismic threat.

"I think it would be really good if people would get it through their heads that they can expect these (school) buildings to collapse and crush people to death," said Joe Holmes, a Kensington father of two.

Long an advocate for seismic reform, Holmes calculated the daily risk of sending his children to Portola Middle School and El Cerrito High School, both in the West Contra Costa school district. "I figure it's the same as sending them on 10 jet airplane flights — every day," he said.

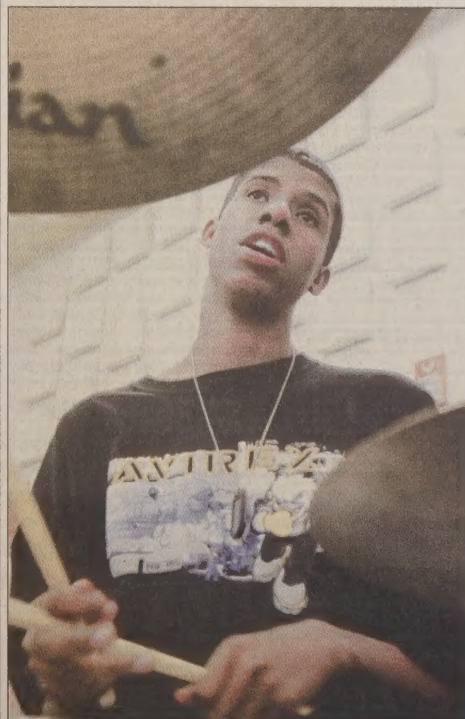
But in West Contra Costa, the threat of a tremor is finally being met with action. The district spent an estimated \$270,000 in bond funds to study the seismic readiness of its schools.

Reports on the district's 40 elementary schools were completed in April. Those studies found 19 campuses in need of some type of seismic retrofit, putting the schools at the top of the list for renovations.

Preliminary reports on five of the district's most at-risk middle and high school campuses were completed late last month.

While the studies found major problems at El Cerrito High, De Anza High, Portola Middle, Adams Middle and Helms Middle, it also stressed that the buildings "will not pose serious life

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JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

EL CERRITO High School student John Adams, 16, started drumming when he was 3. After finishing first in the local division of a drumming contest sponsored by the Guitar Center, Adams went on to place second in the final.

Young drummer strikes his own beat

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — John Adams III started tapping out rhythms on pots and pans when he was 3, got his first drum kit at age 7 and now, at 16, sometimes plays almost every other night with bands throughout the Bay Area.

So it should be no surprise that the El Cerrito High School sophomore recently won a local drum contest that sent him to a regional competition against nine other players from all over the western United States.

He plays for the enjoyment of it and sees a future career in running his own record label.

An early start

Adams was inspired as a youngster after seeing a drummer at the Bible Way Missionary Baptist Church in Richmond. The drummer hung out with Adams' cousins, whom he admired — and he liked how laid-back the drummer looked when he played.

See DRUMMER, Page A8

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INFORMATION FOR LIFE

IN BRIEF

Bay Area

Guide covers breast cancer in workplace

The Northern California Cancer Center (NCCC), a nonprofit cancer research and education organization, has announced the publication of a first-of-its-kind guidebook on navigating the impact of breast cancer in the workplace.

The guidebook called Working with Breast Cancer: Productive Solutions for Employers was underwritten by GAP, Inc.

NCCC officials say the new book contains information on relevant labor and insurance issues and as well as a realistic picture of how various breast cancer treatments are likely to affect employees. More than 30 of the guide's pages provide specific information on identifying, understanding and addressing human resources and psychological and legal issues that arise when an employee has breast cancer.

An electronic version of the book, and hard copy order information are available at NCCC's Web site at www.nccc.org.

Healthy people can delay those flu shots

If you're young and healthy, get out of the line for flu shots so older and at-risk people can take advantage of the preventative measure first, state health officials advise.

Healthy Californians can wait until late November or December to get vaccinated since the flu season typically peaks in January or February.

The California Department of Health Services advises seniors and those who are at-risk for flu-related complications to get a flu shot as soon as possible to safeguard their health during the flu season.

El Cerrito

Presentation on a cross-country protest

David and Irene McPhail of Kensington will give a presentation this weekend at Northminster Presbyterian Church about their experiences at a recent rally and protest at the Western Hemisphere Institute of Security Cooperation.

The protest took place Nov. 16 at the institute — formerly known as the School of the Americas — at Ft. Benning, Ga.

Critics say the Army-operated institute has taught, and may continue to teach, military officials from all over Latin America to monitor, torture and otherwise oppress civilians. After years of protest, legislation in 2000 closed the former school but opened with what administrators have said was a revamped curriculum focusing more on human rights.

The McPhails' presentation will be at 9:45 a.m. Sunday Nov. 24. The church is located at 545 Ashbury Ave.. For more information call 510-524-4401.

Residents asked to help in storm season

The city has asked residents for assistance and cooperation to help prevent flooding during winter storm season. Heavy rains carry storm runoff into the municipal storm drain system, and public works officials say there are a number of things residents can do to help the system work properly.

- Making sure that debris and vegetation do not clog any creek or open watercourse that may run through property they own.
- Keeping gutters in front of homes or businesses clear of anything that would impede the flow of rainwater — including cleaning out drainpipes that run under driveway approaches.
- Making sure that drainage

systems on their property work properly and that downspouts or surface runoff is not directed into their neighbors' yards, where they could cause flooding.

■ Reporting any "trash racks" — or places where a creek flows into an underground pipe — that are blocked with trash or leaves by calling the city's maintenance services division.

For questions about the storm drain system, or to find out about assistance, call the city's maintenance services divisions at 510-215-4382. For weekend emergencies, call the police department at 510-237-3233.

Circle dancers invite beginners to join

No partners or experience are needed to learn the simple steps from Israeli, Celtic, Greek, Inca and other traditions as performed by the Bay Area Circle Dancers. Beginners are invited to come to classes and learn the dances.

Classes are being taught every Friday from 8 to 10 p.m. at Hillside Church, 1422 Navellier St. A \$3-\$5 donation is requested.

For information call John Bear at 510-528-4253 or visit the Web site at <http://circledance.tripod.com>

Albany

St. Alban's to host tea and yuletide boutique

Gift items, collectibles, jewelry and baked goods will be offered for sale and tea, sandwiches, cakes and cookies will be served at the St. Alban's Episcopal Church's 33rd annual Yuletide Tea and Boutique.

The tea and boutique will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 1 at St. Alban's, 1501 Washington Ave. Admission is \$6 adults, \$3 children.

High school bands land gig at Yoshi's

The Albany High School Jazz Band and Rhythm Band, the Albany High rhythm and blues band, will perform at a benefit concert Saturday at 1 p.m., at Yoshi's, 510 Embarcadero West, in Oakland.

The event will benefit the Albany Music Fund, an organization dedicated to preserving excellence and equity in music education in the Albany Unified School District.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 18 and under. The doors open at 11:30 a.m. and lunch will be available. For tickets call 510-559-8474 or e-mail ehc@pacbell.net.

ALBANY POLICE

Monday, Nov. 11

■ **FALSE TAGS** — Officers stopped a blue '80 BMW on the 500 block of Cleveland Avenue for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a Vallejo man, was arrested for having false tags on the vehicle. He was cited and released.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN** — A resident on the 800 block of San Carlos Street reported that his silver '98 Honda Civic was broken into during the night.

■ **DRUG POSSESSION** — About 10:15 p.m. officers contacted a group of four people in an '89 Nissan parked at the dead end of Taft Street. They arrested a 19-year-old El Cerrito man for possession of drugs. He was cited and released.

Tuesday, Nov. 12

■ **VEHICLE VANDALIZED** — During the night, subjects vandalized a Ford van belonging to a business on the 1000 block of San Pablo Avenue.

Wednesday, Nov. 13

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — During the night someone stole a red '95 Honda Civic that was parked on the 700 block of Gateway Street.

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — Officers located a red Honda on the 700 block of San Pablo Avenue that had been reported as stolen from San Jose. The owner was notified.

■ **VEHICLE VANDALIZED** — During the night someone sprayed red paint on the outside of the YMCA building on the 900 block of Kains Avenue.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A resident reported that her burgundy '88 Honda was stolen while in a parking lot of a business on the 900 block of San Pablo Avenue.

EL CERRITO POLICE

Monday, Nov. 4

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1982 white Mercedes truck was stolen from the 1700 block of Elm Street sometime between Nov. 4 and Nov. 11.

Saturday, Nov. 9

■ **THEFT** — Property was stolen from four storage lockers on the 1700 block of Lexington Avenue sometime on Nov. 9 or Nov. 10.

Sunday, Nov. 10

■ **THEFT** — Property was stolen from a vehicle on the 2600 block of Tassajara Avenue sometime between 3:30 and 7 a.m. One of the windows was also smashed.

■ **THEFT** — Property was stolen from a 1989 Toyota Camry on the 2500 block of Harris Avenue sometime between 11 p.m. on Nov. 10 and 8:50 a.m. the next day. A window was

Thursday, Nov. 14:

■ **COUNTERFEIT MONEY** — Officers responded to Golden Gate Fields on reports of subjects in custody for passing counterfeit money. Officers arrested a 51-year-old Pinole man for conspiracy and two counts of drug charges and a 28-year-old Antioch man for conspiracy. Both men were taken to Santa Rita Jail.

■ **PURSE STOLEN** — About 10:15 p.m., an Albany woman reported she had been attacked 15 minutes prior while near Portland and Stannage avenues. The thief grabbed her purse then fled north on a bike.

Friday, Nov. 15

■ **TURKEY IN THE STREET** — Berkeley Animal Control was contacted when Albany Dispatch received reports of a turkey in the street near Solano and Evelyn avenues.

■ **VEHICLE STOLEN** — A tan '87 Toyota was stolen from the 500 block of Jackson Street. There were no witnesses.

■ **ASSAULT, WARRANT** — Officers responded to an automobile accident near Kains Avenue and Dartmouth Street involving a silver Nissan Pathfinder and a red '89 Volkswagen Jetta. Officers arrested the occupants of the Jetta. The driver, a 42-year-old Albany man, was arrested for battery and assault with a deadly weapon. The passenger, a 36-year-old Albany man, was arrested for a no-ball warrant from Oakland for driving with a suspended license and for failure to appear. Both were transported to Santa Rita Jail.

■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — Officers contacted a 32-year-old Albany man sleeping on the sidewalk on the 900 block of Stannage Avenue. He was arrested for disorderly conduct, cited and released.

forced open and a theft-deterrent device was cut off the steering wheel.

Monday, Nov. 11

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A blue Ford Ranger pickup truck was stolen from a driveway on the 6500 block of Eureka Avenue sometime between 8:20 and 8:40 p.m.

■ **DRUGS** — A Richmond man was arrested at 7 a.m. in a home on the 10800 block of San Pablo Avenue on suspicion of possessing a controlled substance. Police served a search warrant there as a result of an investigation regarding the sales of methamphetamine. Police also found methamphetamine and other evidence there related to the sale of the drug.

■ **ROBBERY THWARTED** — A woman fended off two robbers who approached her at Blake Street between Liberty Street and Elm, as she walked home from BART. The men told her "it would be easier if you just

gave it to me." The woman then angrily told the men she didn't have her wallet and ran away. The men got in their car and left the area.

Saturday, Nov. 16

■ **THEFT** — During the night, thieves broke into a white '88 Acura Legend parked on the 1000 block of Neilson Street and stole the stereo and other items.

■ **VANDALISM** — About 6 p.m., officers contacted three people observed writing on a building on the 1000 block of Eastshore Highway. They arrested a 16-year-old Berkeley boy and a 17-year-old San Francisco girl for vandalism. They were cited and released to their parents. They also arrested an 18-year-old San Francisco man for vandalism. He was cited and released.

Sunday, Nov. 17

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN** — During the night, thieves broke into a red '96 Honda Civic that was parked in a garage on the 1100 block of Washington Avenue, stole the stereo and other items from the trunk.

■ **THEFT** — A resident on the 900 block of Neilson reported that thieves stole items from her unlocked red Mercury Sable.

■ **DISTURBANCE** — Officers arrested a 32-year-old Albany man for causing a disturbance after two reports of his actions on the 1000 block of Solano Avenue.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — Sometime during the day, someone stole a white '87 Toyota van parked on the 900 block of Masonic Avenue.

Monday, Nov. 18

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-INS** — Several

cars were broken into on the block of Pierce Street. Officers arrested two subjects in connection with the robberies. The two men, ages 24 and 26, were arrested for burglary and conspiracy. The 24-year-old man was taken to the Berkeley Jail and the 26-year-old man taken to Santa Rita Jail.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — El Cerrito police reported locating a black van pickup that had been stolen from Albany. The vehicle had been aged but the key was still in it. It did not have anyone in custody.

■ **VEHICLE VANDALIZED** — During the night, vandals threw bricks at a silver '02 Volkswagen parked in a driveway of a residence on the block of Talbot Avenue. There was no damage.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — During the night someone stole a red '91 Century from the 1000 block of Tura Avenue.

■ **VANDALISM** — About 8 p.m., vandals in a black Volkswagen drove by a business on the block of Solano Avenue and threw a ball through an office window.

Summary

During the week of Nov. 11, officers towed six vehicles, responded to false alarms, attended to five deceased animals and assisted people who were locked out of their house or car. In the domestic violence unit, officers assisted with two 17 civil disturbances and 18 violations. Officers stopped 78 vehicles and/or pedestrians issuing 42 citations and 44 warnings. Albany firefighters/paramedics responded to medical emergencies.

— K. M.

was recovered by a police officer parking lot on the 11500 block of Pablo Avenue at 5 a.m.

Friday, Nov. 15

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A woman arrested during a traffic stop at 8 a.m. on San Pablo Avenue on suspicion of stealing her vehicle in Creek. The woman was booked at the police department and is pending further investigation into the theft of the vehicle. The woman received a citation for an outstanding warrant.

Saturday, Nov. 16

■ **THEFT** — A woman was arrested on suspicion of attempting to steal items from Safeway at 7:32 p.m. Police determined that the woman also wanted on an outstanding warrant for a prior theft-related charge.

— A. M.

Acquisition of helicopter allows Richmond police greater reach

By Karl Fischer

STAFF WRITER

RICHMOND — A police helicopter hovered over the railroad tracks in a remote wooded area near Giant Highway, an airborne Richmond officer pointing out the spot where Contra Costa Sheriff's deputies last month found a blind man, robbed and left alone.

That day, Richmond police had received several reports of a man lying near the tracks. Officers had searched all afternoon but couldn't find him. But cruising along at 65 mph, the sheriff's STARR-1 helicopter picked the man out with ease.

It's the kind of law enforcement tool the Richmond Police Department hopes to harness as it begins sharing time on STARR-1, the Sheriff's Tactical Airborne Reconnaissance Rescue helicopter.

"Learning the equipment is the hardest part — how to do 10 different things at once," said

Richmond police Officer Kevin Martin, as he hovered around 800 feet in the Bell 407 helicopter.

Martin is one of two Richmond officers training as police observers aboard the civilian-flow aircraft and, more significant to West Contra Costa, a new sheriff's helicopter dubbed STARR-2, which will spend most of its time patrolling the Richmond and Vallejo areas after it arrives next spring.

The sheriff's office will purchase the new \$1.2 million helicopter — a smaller, quieter craft than STARR-1 — with money seized through criminal asset forfeiture and the two Interstate 80 corridor cities, which each ponied up \$150,000 to share the air unit.

STARR-1, which the sheriff added in 1996, primarily patrols the county's waterways, assists police on the ground during chases and surveillance, and searches for missing people, sheriff's Deputy William Duke said.

The helicopter also keeps an eye on bridges, refineries and other facilities in the county that could be vulnerable to terrorism. The new air unit will perform much the same function in West Contra Costa, said Richmond police Capt. Terry Hudson, who commands the department's patrol division.

But STARR-2 will more typically be used to help with surveillance and assist police officers in Richmond's compact

urban streets, Martin said. "It can save lives," Martin said, particularly during car chases. "We won't have police (cars) crashing into blind intersections."

Like STARR-1, the new helicopter will employ global-positioning technology and an infrared system to improve the

efficiency of searches, particularly at night.

"You can't overestimate the value of eyes in the sky," Duke said. "Many of the calls are for missing persons — children, sometimes Alzheimer's patients. We cover a lot more ground easily."

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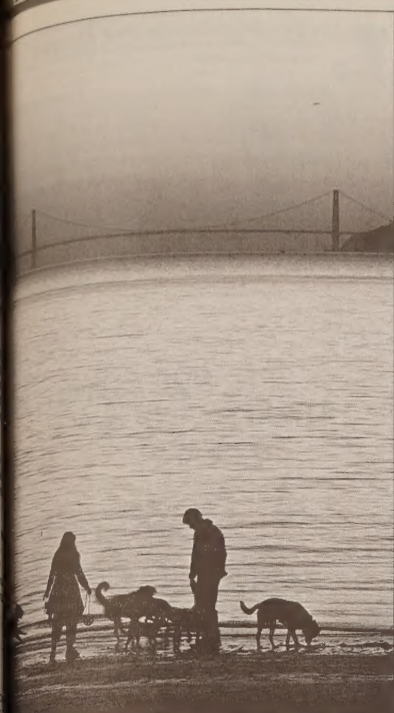
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JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

Twilight time

THE SKIES the past week have made for some spectacular views, and these beachgoers on the Albany shoreline had a view as the sun settled behind the horizon and provided a backdrop for the Golden Gate Bridge.

Children get religion right—and so did one barber

RECENTLY, I WROTE about a smear campaign against Catholic Bishop John Cummins, and several readers reacted by deploring the harsh words often made of Rev. Saint Helen Takemoto of Albany. "It's too bad we can't do the way children do," said one reader, and I decided to take her advice.



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

I attended the Children's Church at the Episcopal Church in Albany. Everything was scaled to the little-kid size. Father Snapp sat on the bottom of the altar landing, eyeing his pint-sized members, who were drawn in a semi-circle in front of him, sitting in tiny chairs. Father himself was also child-size, sitting on a piano bench.

The congregation was three and one-half: a 7-year-old girl, Rebecca, two 8-year-old boys, Yvonne and Katy, and their twin brother, Jack. Father Jim led them through the short service, complete with coloring books to pass the time. Father Jim pronounced the Lord's Prayer, and the whole service was over, 30 minutes and counting. "I don't want to be a member," one of the children said, and he was right.

But so sweet. Father Snapp, things simple, but he talked down to them. The kids responded with genuine sincerity that made even an unbeliever in angels.

Albany's had a storied history since its founding in 1848. It was originally a storehouse for the military, where the soldiers lived. Today, it's a city. But it was clear that the region needed a proper church. The problem was how to build it.

They did it. It's the stuff of legend, except it's all true. The church in church history as the 180,000 Haircut.

was Frank Sibilia, who ran the barbershop at the Mark Hopkins Hotel. One day, he got a visit at home from the Vicar, Rev. Randy Miller.

"You're looking a little bushy behind the ears," said Sibilia. "Sit down here. I'll give you a quick trim."

As he trimmed, they talked. Miller told him about his dream of a real church. When the haircut was over, he said, "How much?" "No charge," Sibilia said. Then he got a revelation.

"Wait a minute!" he said. "I'm going to take your money after all!"

He took the cash, put it in an envelope and wrote, "First money donated to our special building fund."

The next day he cleaned up his attic, installed an old barber chair, and tacked a sign on the door reading, "Frank's Barber Shop. Ceiling Price: One New Church."

He worked his regular shift at the Mark Hopkins by day, then came home and gave haircuts to members of St. Alban's by night, with the proceeds going to the building fund.

The other barbers at the Mark Hopkins started kidding him about his moonlighting, and pretty soon the customers started asking for donation envelopes. Among them: Lord Halifax of England, composer Jerome Kern and steel magnate W.B. Simpson, who kicked in \$1,000. It took 10 years—and thousands of haircuts—to raise the money, but raise it he did. You can see the results in the beautiful edifice on the corner of Curtis and Washington.

And in the faces of children like Rebecca, Yvonne, Katy and Jack.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2787 or msnapp@cctimes.com

Seniors hit with a bout of health-care horrors

LIKE MANY MEMBERS of Kaiser Permanente in this area, I got a nasty shock recently when I received my 2003 Renewal Booklet and discovered payments were taking a giant jump.

I have been a member of Kaiser for 40 years and my wife is also a longtime member. We have been generally pleased with both the quality and cost of health care we received. Almost all the doctors who treated us have been good, and some exceptional.

So I have never joined in the popular sport of Kaiser-bashing, and I'm not doing it now. Still, I am perturbed by rate increases of about 30 percent that come on top of a cut in the amount Kaiser pays on prescription medicines.

Our Senior Advantage plan premium has gone from \$65 to \$80 a month. Doctor's visits have doubled to \$20. Inpatient hospitalization is up \$300 to \$500. There is now a \$100 charge for ambulance service, and the co-payment for prescription drugs is up again, as are other charges.



DAVE GREER
Man About Town

When I ran these figures by my son, Dixon, a senior consultant with Liberty Benefits, a San Jose firm that specializes in reducing employer premium costs, he did not share my alarm. He says that compared to most health plans, we are still doing very well. Moreover, Kaiser's cost increases are about average for the health-insurance industry today.

Kaiser says the "key drivers" of these hikes are, "higher pharmacy costs, demand for new medical and informational technologies, state-mandated hospital earthquake retrofit improvements, and increasing nurse-to-patient ratios."

Kaiser claims that, "Federal reimbursements from Medicare, monthly membership dues, and co-payments for

medical services are not keeping pace with the comprehensive care our members deserve."

I asked Dixon what he thought the "key drivers" were in these industrywide price boosts. Here are his observations:

■ Health insurance carriers are reporting record profits for the first three quarters of this year. They are also acknowledging that this record profitability is tied to rate increases.

■ The carriers are able to do this because in the last decade the number of national insurance carriers has shrunk from about 30 to a half dozen. This means an oligopoly has been created and led to "predator pricing."

■ The federal government is investigating the tactics of insurance carriers in several states to ascertain whether there has been collusion among them. The average rate increase has been about 16 percent; now it is routinely 25 to 35 percent. California has been running 15 to 25 percent more

in the last three years.

■ The HMOs are no longer releasing information about their costs to insurance brokers, consultants, and plan sponsors (buyers) as they traditionally have. This means the customers are "flying blind" because insurance company profits are unknown. It is vital for brokers and consultants to get plan sponsors the best deal.

■ Big price boosts are coming now because the Clinton administration's hostility to the industry and media attacks on HMOs held down the usual price increases unnaturally. Anticipating less scrutiny from a pro-business Bush administration, the carriers have been "catching up and then some."

Modern health care has certainly lengthened our lives, but many of us are wondering how much longer we can afford it. The old saying, "Live fast, die young, and leave a beautiful corpse" may be in for a renaissance.

Dave Greer is a long-time Albany resident.

Wife's book recalls dedicated wartime chaplain

RECENTLY I RECEIVED a small, paperback book in the mail. It was sent by Anne Rood and signed by her to me, but there was no other communication. The book was "You Okay, Chappy? Memories of Infantry Field Chaplain, WWII, and his Wife on the Home Front." The authors were Wayne and Anne Rood.

It's a charming book, and reading it, I knew I had to talk to Anne Rood, who put it together after the death in May 2000 of her husband of 60 years, whom she describes as "charismatic, creative, multitalented, kind and gentle. He had a beautiful baritone voice and a dry and quick sense of humor. He was self-deprecating, often unaware of his talents and successes, though he worked diligently at everything, and admired competence."

The book tells the story of their early lives and their life together and apart during World War II, partly through his letters home. I visited her at her home in the El Cerrito hills.

Wayne Rood was born in Wisconsin, then moved with his family to Riverside, where he grew up. The church, Anne



CLARA-RAE GENSER
Community Folk

BOOK

"You Okay, Chappy," published by Xlibris, can be found at bookstores, or contact the publisher at 1-888-795-4274 or Xlibris.com.

writes, became the Roods' family. Wayne Rood sang in the church choir, and in quartets, in high school concerts and solo; he also acted in plays, operas and skits.

After trying ministry, Wayne Rood decided he wanted to go into the ministry. He earned bachelor's degrees in West Virginia, then went to seminary at Alfred University in western New York, where he met Dean Bond, "a lovable and liberal theologian," who became a great influence in his thinking.

There also he acted in plays

directed by Duryea Smith, whom he admired very much and who became his mentor, Anne Rood writes.

After four years of marriage Wayne Rood went into the Army chaplaincy, feeling that he "must be where there are 10 million men in need," his wife writes.

Anne Rood dedicated herself to her husband and children, and while he was in the Army followed him from place to place until he was sent overseas, and during his years as a visiting minister or intern from small towns to Stanford and Oxford universities.

Her tales of her home-front adventures are sometimes hilarious, including one on a city bus that had been pressed into service for transcontinental trips: "As we careened around curves all night in the Smoky Mountains I would slide out into the aisle. My seat partner was an enterprising young woman. She found a sailor of ample proportions, asked him to sit on the aisle next to me, and he held me in for the rest of that wild trip."

Overseas, Wayne Rood was with "his men" constantly, in the mud and the danger, sharing the

discomfort, the fear, the daring feats and the daily grind of the war. He shared all of this with her in many poignant letters.

The Rev. Rood's wry humor is mirrored in things such as his jeep, which he called "Body and Soul" and a sign on his home: "Crestfallen Manor."

After the war, he taught at the Pacific School of Religion, for 40 years. His teaching included drama, which actually spread out into the larger community and she speaks of his activities there. A book he had written, "Theater and Theology" was among the unpublished manuscripts she found after his death.

Of all the pictures she showed me, Anne Rood's favorite is a photo of Wayne Rood and their young grandson, sitting together on a bench, "two philosophers in deep conversation."

Do you know people, places or groups in El Cerrito, Albany or Kensington that would make good subjects for this column? Write me at 555 Pierce St., No. 443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 510-525-4585. My e-mail is crgenser@aol.com.

EL CERRITO CHAMBER NEWS

By Sewall Glinternick

The El Cerrito Chamber's annual Christmas party and gift-giving is set for noon Tuesday, Dec. 17, at the Mira Vista Golf & Country Club. At the event, open to chamber members and their guests, the board of directors election results will be announced and officers for 2003 will be chosen.

NEW MEMBERS: A pair of businesses, El Cerrito Mitsubishi and Chef's Chinese Food have joined the chamber.

John Sarich and Bruce Kavich, co-owners of the Mitsubishi dealership, which opened recently at 11858 San Pablo Ave., have each worked in auto sales for about 20 years. Zarich was general manager of two Pasha Corp. dealerships in Hayward, and Kavich served as manager of the Lexus agency in Concord. Reach El Cerrito Mitsubishi at 510-992-2000.

Chef's Chinese Food, at 225 El Cerrito Plaza for seven years, has opened in a new location, 233 El Cerrito Plaza (on the south side, next to the Junket). The new dining room is dominated by a super-size watercolor painting by a famous Chinese artist. Owner Edward Zhu took a three-year course in preparing Cantonese food before coming to the United States 16 years ago. His specialties are honey sesame chicken, braised chicken, honey walnut prawns, prawns with garlic and onions and spicy dry-fried calamari.

Chef's Chinese Food also offers a steam-table takeout combination plate for one (\$3.65 to \$6.25) and express family dinners for \$13.95 to \$24.95. The restaurant is open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

Chef's also prepares the food served in several local schools, caters private parties and can prepare party trays for special

occasions. Call 510-525-8737.

LUNCHEON DEADLINE: Members have until the close of business today to make reservations for the chamber's luncheon at noon Nov. 26 at the Mira Vista Golf & Country Club. Call the chamber 510-233-7040.

The speaker will be city economic development and redevelopment manager Lori Trevino, who will explain the city's storefront improvement plan and give an update on the recent San Pablo Avenue improvement workshop. The luncheon is open to members and their guests.

TREE LIGHTING: Curves for Women, one of the chamber's newer members, will hold a Christmas tree lighting ceremony

5 to 8 p.m. Dec. 1 at the women's exercise facility at 270 El Cerrito Plaza and will feature the Vona Children's Choir.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST: The El Cerrito Lions Club's 33rd annual benefit pancake breakfast 8 a.m. to noon Sunday, Dec. 8, at the El Cerrito Masonic Center, 6922 Stockton Ave.

Open to the public the event will raise money for the club's youth and welfare fund. Tickets, at \$6 for adults and \$3.50 for children, may be purchased from any Lions Club member or at the door the day of the event.

The chamber office is located at 10848 San Pablo Ave. The phone number is 510-233-7040.

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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

EDITORIAL

Things to be thankful for

The last Thursday in November is, for many of us, not a day of rest and contemplation of everything we have to be thankful for, but a day that demands frantic stuffing.

We stuff the turkey, stuff ourselves with food after it's cooked, stuff ourselves into recliner chairs to watch football and — if our families don't have the luck (or nowadays, the income) to live in the Bay Area — we stuff ourselves into plane seats at either end of the holiday in order to make it wherever we must go in time to sit down and participate in the holiday.

And yet, there is much to be thankful for, especially in our own small corner of the world of Albany, El Cerrito and Kensington.

Here's a short list of our favorite things about these communities, things to be thankful for:

The views.

The cheerful hodgepodge of architectural styles which means we'll never be confused with, say, San Ramon.

The Solano Stroll every September.

Solano Avenue every day.

The dedicated parents of Albany's music students, tirelessly organizing fund-raisers to keep the programs alive.

The El Cerrito Recycling Center with its free books (and free mulch).

The scheduled return of Sundar Shadi's Christmas sculptures.

The peace and quiet of Kensington.

Blake Garden.

Camp Herms.

Regional parks.

Fourth of July block parties in El Cerrito.

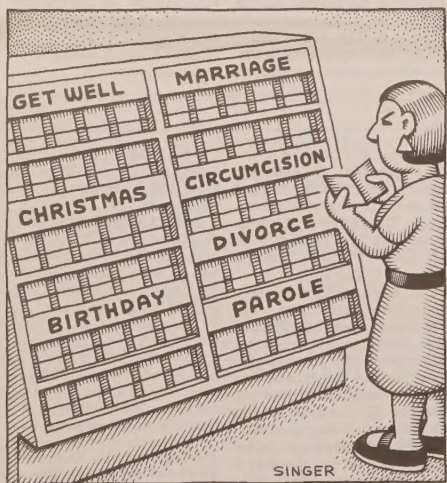
The young people who make our neighborhoods so vibrant — and who so often want to give back to their communities in the form of public service.

Let's stop next Thursday, and give thanks. We wish you and your loved ones a happy Thanksgiving.

NO EXIT

© Andy Singer

GREETING CARDS



SINGER

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

State Senate

Don Perata: (D-9th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, San Pablo) State Capitol, Room 4061, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916-445-6577. Fax: 916-327-1997; 1515 Clay St., No. 2202, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-286-1333. Fax: 510-286-3885. E-mail: senator.perata@sen.ca.gov.

Assembly

Dion Louise Aroner: (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3655; 101 Broadway, Richmond, CA 94804, 510-234-0211; Fax: 510-234-0213. E-mail: dion.aroner@assembly.ca.gov.

County Supervisors

John Gioia: (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-

3429. E-mail: dist1@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us.

Keith Carson: (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-272-6695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-mail: kcarson@co.alameda.ca.us.

Cities

El Cerrito: City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-215-4300. E-mail: citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

Albany: City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-5710.

Kensington: Fire Protection District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-527-8395

Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-526-4141

School board members

West Contra Costa Unified School District 510-620-2246

Karen Leong Fenton, school board president: 510-236-8460

Albany Unified School District: 510-558-3766

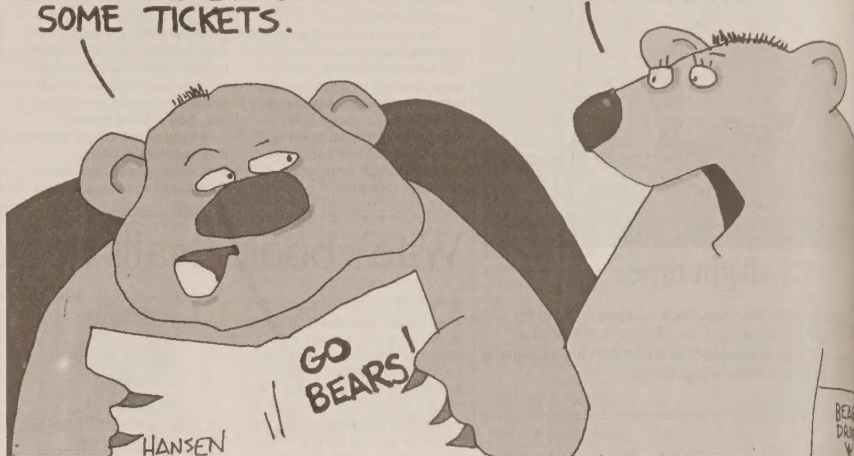
David Farrell, Albany school board president: 510-528-9209

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

IT'S BIG GAME TIME

CALL YOUR COUSIN OSKI.
SEE IF HE CAN GET US
SOME TICKETS.

I'M NOT GOING.
THERE'S NO PLACE
TO PARK.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks voters

I wish to express my deep thanks to West County voters for re-electing me to the West Contra Costa school board.

Although the campaign was a difficult one, it was also invigorating, providing the candidates an opportunity for intense dialogue and debate with one another and the community. I want to especially thank those who took the time to speak with me about our schools when I knocked on their door or called on the phone.

Having already spent one term on the board, I am deeply aware of the major challenges facing us as we work toward creating a system of public education in West County in which we can all take pride. Sometimes those challenges seem insurmountable.

However, the reality is that we do have the antidote to low-performing schools. The solution is not a magic wand, but a community that is willing to roll up its sleeves and make the critical investments of time and resources our children need.

Can and will we do it? Thanks to your support, I have the honor of spending the next four years in a leadership position in this effort and look forward to working with you closely to do what it takes to create great schools throughout our district. Please continue to call and e-mail me with your concerns and ideas.

The "campaign" to transform our board of education and our schools did not end on Nov. 5. It continues as we work to engage business, labor, seniors, parents, students, and all of our neighbors in this crucial effort.

I will continue to use my position on the board of education to help advance this work in any way possible. Thank you for the honor of re-electing me to this office.

Glen Price
El Cerrito

Price is a West Contra Costa school district trustee.

Unfair taxation

I was stunned by the recent passage of Measure F, in which Albany property owners will pay an estimated \$81.55 per \$100,000 of assessed property value.

It seems clear the City Council — which is unwilling to consider income-generating proposals such as the waterfront development — now has a policy to cynically "soak the newcomers," those of us who pay the most property taxes.

Under our bizarre property-tax system, my home, purchased two years ago, is "assessed" at \$540,000. Yet, according to the council's statement on Measure F, the "median Albany home is assessed at \$170,000." We all know this is fiction: Show me any home in Albany that sells for \$170,000!

Under Measure F, those council members who have lived here for some time may well pay the median tax they mentioned in the statement: "The average homeowner's cost for Measure F is \$139/year." However, as a typical newcomer to Albany, I will pay \$442 per year! This on top of a huge mortgage and already astronomical property taxes.

If there was some way I could have the council members' own homes reassessed to represent real market values, I doubt if we would see them proposing any more measures like Measure F.

Trevor Grayling
Albany

Dedicated volunteers

On Nov. 9, there was a special Mass at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in El Cerrito to celebrate the 28th anniversary of St. John's Senior Center and its service to the community.

On Nov. 12, 70 people gathered for a luncheon and program to honor the 24 volunteers who make the senior program a reality every Tuesday. Volunteer coordinator Claire Gorin, and Alvina Lyons and Nellie Cabral have served the center since its inception in 1974.

Presently, there are 24 volunteers who represent a total of 319 years in service to the community.

We residents of El Cerrito appreciate their dedication to serve senior citizens.

Hatsue Katsura
El Cerrito

Protect Iraqi people

If we go into Iraq, the 10 percent of the world's oil reserves that belong to the Iraqi people should be protected from theft.

The U.S. government has done a thieving job of taking care of Native American assets. It cannot be a good guardian.

Maybe the United Nations should be the guardian. Those assets should not be stolen from the Iraqi people. They have not done anything to us.

Elizabeth Pun
Albany

Disastrous bill

We're getting used to Sen. Dianne Feinstein's masquerade as an environmentalist, intent on "grooming" our forests ("Feinstein blames Sierra Club for scuttled fire bill," Times, Nov. 2). But now Rep. George Miller might be getting into the act.

I'm grateful Miller retained his seat, but floored by his support of H.R. 5319, which would open our national forests to destructive corporate logging and is being sold to the public with lies about its intent and probable results.

The vast amount of logging guaranteed to timber exploiters by the measure would increase fire danger because of its drying effects and would draw our dwindling forest management resources away from real needs and solutions, like fireproofing close to communities and removing countless miles of logging roads that cost too much to maintain and provide too much access to arsonists.

If the bill's true purpose was reducing catastrophic wildfires, why does it severely restrict public participation in its implementation?

Miller ought to be sponsoring well-conceived Democratic Party initiatives to protect our national forests, not joining

the Republicans' corporate exploitation agenda. Democratic support of venal legislation like H.R. 5319 can only spell disaster for the Democratic Party and for the nation's forests.

Philip Batchelder
Berkeley

Batchelder is a former chairman of the Sierra Club Ancient Forest Committee Bay Chapter.

Just suppose ...

Nationally, only 33 percent of the eligible voters went to the polls in the recent election.

The result of that exercise is a "Republican landslide" in which only 17 percent of eligible voters were rewarded.

What would happen if nobody showed up at the next election? Would Bush become permanent president and be embalmed like Lenin after his death?

Max Allen
Albany

Deport illegals!

Regarding the recent outrage by Hispanic ethnic professionals over Gov. Davis' failure to approve AB 60 (which would have provided driver's licenses to illegal immigrants), how is it that there was no discussion of the simple possibility of enforcing U.S. law and deporting the illegals?

Instead of licensing them, why don't we just repatriate them, as our law mandates?

Do we have a shortage of traffic on our roads, or are we just being stupid? How is it that our fearless governor doesn't even consider the possibility of enforcing crucially important laws? Does anyone have anything to do with pandering to the ethnic and cheap labor lobbies?

Could it be related to the way Davis torpedoed Proposition 187, which would have caused California to quit providing hugely expensive free education and medical care to people who are in America illegally? If we enforced Prop. 187, California wouldn't be facing the huge budget shortfall we now face.

There are now three million illegal immigrants in California. Imagine what it would be like if we didn't have to live with their traffic! Imagine not having to pay for their education and medical care. Imagine not having to pay for their crime, their air pollution, their energy and water consumption — and on and on.

Without immigration, life in California could be sustainable. With immigration we face all the disastrous effects of overpopulation. In the last decade, more than 92 percent of California population growth was caused by immigration.

K.R. Hammond
Berkeley

Hammond is vice president of Californians for Population Stabilization.

Look for us online
at www.bayarea.com

Public documents, much more there for the asking

Today's quote:
"The popular government with-
out popular information, or the
absence of acquiring it, is but a
tragedy, or perhaps both."
"The knowledge will forever govern
the people, and a people who
know their own government
will arm themselves with the
power which knowledge gives."
— James Madison,
1751-1836



JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

ton, from Manhattan and Washington D.C. There is college information, including college catalogs and FAESA forms. We have job search reference books and reproducible Federal and State tax forms.

There are reference copies of "Consumer Reports" and "Bay Area Consumers' Check-book," road atlases, street maps, zip code directories, almanacs and a huge "Random House Unabridged Dictionary."

At the Albany Library reference desk, we also have agendas and minutes for the City Council, the School Board and the Alameda County Library Advisory Commission.

Behind the reference desk is the rest of the community information. This includes building, plumbing and mechanical codes, zoning ordinance, the Albany city code and General

Plan 1990-2010, Albany Unified School District policies and regulations and a binder with photographs and locations of approved street trees for Albany (a great resource: when we had to choose trees for the front of our house, it was helpful to read the descriptions and see the photos.)

Several companies submitted qualifications and proposals for the San Pablo Mixed-Use Project, University Village, Albany, and these documents can be found on these shelves.

The El Cerrito Library also has local documents. They are in the reference section and in the basement. If you are looking for a particular document there, ask at the reference desk. City Council agendas and announcements are kept on a community bulletin board and at the reference desk.

In front of the reference desk at the Kensington Library, there is a bin with various reference items of interest. These include school board agendas, county information, Value Line, consumer reports and local telephone books. There is also a freestanding file cabinet the public can use to find all sorts

of community information, current and historical.

All these facts make me think about the amazing amount of information available in a library and how many authors have taken advantage of this resource. If you know a writer — or you are a writer — who gathered large amounts of needed information in one of our local libraries, let me know. I think there's a column there!

READER REVIEW: Today's book review is from Dominik and the book is "Goosebumps: You Can't Scare Me," by R. L. Stine. It's a mystery with 120 pages and Dominik says the age range is 10 to 13. One word she'd use to describe this book is "excellent" and it's about "scary camping." Dominik recommends it because "it's great to read."

Want to recommend a book? Pick up a Mini Book Review at the El Cerrito, Kensington and Albany Libraries. Comments, suggestions, questions? I can be reached at the Albany Library or at jwinkelstein@aqlibrary.org

Resources where parents can turn for answers



BETTY KING BUGINAS
Schools

PARENTING HAS NEVER been an easy job. With so many families with only one parent in the home or both parents working, time and energy are stretched thin.

"Parents are tired, they're working hard, but they're concerned about their kids," says registered nurse Rona Renner, a parent educator and temperament specialist at Kaiser Permanente, Richmond.

Compounding the stress today, she says, is concern about financial instability, with more parents than ever telling her they or their partners have been laid off.

"My belief is parents do the best they can with what they have. But what is often lacking is information, training, and support."

Renner offers classes and individual consultation through Kaiser. She was inspired several years ago to try to reach even more parents when she heard a father explain why he decided not to hit his child any more.

"I realized this information needs to be shared, that there is not enough information out there for parents."

She has shared her expertise through a variety of radio and TV appearances. Beginning this month, she has a weekly program for parents and other care providers called "Childhood Matters." It airs on 98.1 KISS FM Sundays from 9 to 10 a.m. and is funded in part by Every Child Counts-Alameda County.

The program will include bringing guests into the studio and "call outs" to other experts. But for Renner an important aspect of the program is taking phone calls from parents.

Renner says parents too often feel isolated. "The baby is crying and there's no one around to ask. And seldom does anyone say, 'You're doing a good job.'"

Parents may ask their pediatrician basic health questions, Renner says, but not have enough opportunities to discuss their fears and concerns with anyone.

Renner says when parents get together for classes they often come in serious and quiet. "But when they leave

people are laughing, people are crying, people are supporting each other."

What she hears time and again is, "I thought I was the only one going through this."

Parents need to reach out to other parents and let them know they need support, she says. "I've found people can be very generous once that barrier is broken down."

Another suggestion Renner makes to parents is to get to know the temperament of their child.

One resource she recommends is a Web site, www.preventiveooz.org, that allows parents of young children to develop a profile of their child's temperament.

Once you know where your child falls on a scale on different temperament traits, such as activity level and intensity, and understand your own style, you can better appreciate your child's strengths and develop strategies to better interact with him or her.

Renner says many of the issues parents raise have to do with school. Perhaps a parent struggles for hours every night with their child over homework, and has never discussed the problem with the teacher.

"Parents need to know they have the right to advocate for their child, in a way that is not blaming but collaborative."

She also encourages more collaboration among school staff — for example, through better use of the school's Student Study Team, which provides a means for a teacher to seek advice from co-workers on how best to support a student.

More information about Renner, her radio program, and resources for parents is available at www.childhoodmatters.org.

Betty King Buginas is a teacher in the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

EL CERRITO SCHOOL NEWS

El Cerrito High School

Don't know the answer to an SAT question? It's better to guess or leave blank than to miss a question. This and many more questions will be answered at a free SAT workshop at UC Berkeley 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 23, at the El Cerrito High School, 1400 El Cerrito Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94630. Email any questions to ESAT@aqlibrary.org

El Cerrito High School's debate team participated in the first National Policy Debate Tournament for High Schools in Los Angeles. The team, coached by Mr. Oscar Shine, finished in the top 10.

The school's debate team also participated in the 2002 National Policy Debate Tournament for High Schools in Los Angeles. The team, coached by Mr. Oscar Shine, finished in the top 10.

The school's debate team also participated in the 2002 National Policy Debate Tournament for High Schools in Los Angeles. The team, coached by Mr. Oscar Shine, finished in the top 10.

van Warren and Travis Lowe (6-0) and Kyle Kitagawa and Lorna Contreras (5-1) came in first and second place, respectively. In the semi-final rounds, the EC teams of Brian Feraru and Kenny Chung were paired against Kevan Warren and Travis Lowe with Kevan Warren and Travis Lowe advancing to the final round as the higher seed. Kevan Warren, Kyle Kitagawa and Lorna Contreras also took second-, third- and fifth-place Speaker Awards, respectively. Also competing in the Varsity Policy Debate were Ryan Mascarnas and Amy Chang.

In the JV Policy Debate, the teams of Tony Tran and Joseph Sung (5-1) and Randy Pang and Norris Hung (4-2) came in first and second, respectively, with Randy Pang and Norris Hung receiving first- and third-place Speaker Awards.

In the Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Debate, John Young placed first and Elaine Ng placed second. Elaine Ng also received the second-place Speaker Award. Also competing were Chris Staley, August Spafford, Lisa Aultman and Troy Visineau.

Thank you to AnnMarie Darrow, Steve Darrow, Steve Aultman, Pete Figueroa, Ben Young, Bonnie Chan-tarotwong, Tom Meagher, Ji-Hyun Cho, Daniel Lum and Joel Jacobs for judging rounds. Extra thanks to Jim Sanders (Saturday) and Annie Pang (Sunday) for taking on the responsibility of the credentials on site.

El Cerrito High School's use of Albertsons Community Cards has paid off. Each quarter Albertsons sends the PTSA a check for the amount of support-ers have earned for the school by shopping there. The amount has averaged \$800 per quarter for the past year and it was \$1,800 for August through October.

Portola Middle School

Nov. 25, GATE parents meeting, 7 p.m. in the school library. This meeting is open to any parents interested in Portola's GATE program.

Nov. 26, PTA meeting, 7:15-9 p.m. in the second-floor school library. Meet-

ing topics include: talent show plans, end-of-year plans (8th-grade parents request), teacher/staff holiday potluck luncheon, direct appeal mailing and assessment of safety and order at the school.

To add an agenda item for any PTA meeting, e-mail portolaplus@yahoo.com or leave a message with your phone number at 510-466-5605, ext. 2.

Nov. 26, Portola Music Parents meeting, 6:15 p.m., right before the PTA meeting in the Portola Library.

Dec. 2-4, Scholastic Book Fair. Volunteers are needed. E-mail hjcook@sbcglobal.net. Books are delivered Monday, Nov. 25; fair is set up Tuesday Nov. 26; teacher preview is Wednesday, Nov. 27; classroom visits are 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 2. On Tuesday, Dec. 3, an evening program, family reading night and book sale are set 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4, is sale day, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

ALBANY PTA NEWS

Albany PTA Council

The Albany Jazz Band and R & B Band will perform at a benefit concert for the Albany PTA. The concert will be held at Yoshi's, 510 Embarcadero West in Oakland, on Saturday, Nov. 23, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00, for tickets call 510-8474 or e-mail ehc@pacbell.net

Albany High School

Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Linda at lh@earthlink.net

PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., AHS Library

Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Room

Gift Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-mail: GiftShipley@aol.com or Karen at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karen@pacbell.net

moss@sbcglobal.net 510-526-2018

Albany Middle School

Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Nancy Nelson at nannielson@aol.com

Dec. 5, PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., AMS Library

Scrip Orders: Call Dorothy Brown at 510-524-3123 or e-mail: dorothy-cmc@yahoo.com

Reminder: Save and turn in General Mills boxtops for education to office.

Cornell Elementary School

Interested parents may receive important announcements by e-mail. Contact Barbara Grady-Ayer at gradyayer@aol.com

Scrip Orders: Call Mark Priven 510-526-2082 or e-mail: privwest@pacbell.net

Marin Elementary School

Interested parents may receive important announcements by e-mail. Contact Tree Shuber at marinetree@aol.com

Call Helene Class at 510-526-4902 or e-mail: h.class@att.net Paper Scrip for sale in the office Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:30 a.m. and Monday and Friday at 9:30 a.m.

Ocean View Elementary

Scrip Orders: Call Kim Denton at 510-528-6480

RECYCLE used computer printer cartridges from your home or office. Look for bins in the library.

AUSD Board of Education

Nov. 26, Regular meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Cornell Multi-Purpose Room

AUSD Calendar

Nov. 28-29, Thanksgiving Holiday, No School
Attention shoppers: Support Albany Schools by going to www.schoolcapp.com or www.school-cash.com to access 125 merchants including Nordstrom.com, Amazon.com, drugstore.com and Lands' End. Up to 20 percent of every purchase goes back to your school. Also, don't forget to support local merchants who support Albany schools!

Items? Call Kay Weinstein at 510-525-0363 or e-mail: kayweinstein@yahoo.com

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Center St. & MLK, Jr. Way

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Submissions to the Community Calendar for the 2002-2003 academic year on the

Calendar

must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Children

■ **Hall of Health**, a hands-on health museum, features two puppet shows, at 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16, at 2230 Shattuck Ave., (lower level). For children of all ages and their parents, "The Kids on the Block," the award-winning educational puppet troupe, includes puppets from diverse cultures and puppets with such conditions as cerebral palsy, blindness, arthritis, Down Syndrome, leukemia, and spina bifida. The shows promote acceptance and understanding of physical, mental, medical, and cultural differences. The Hall of Health is a hands-on health museum and science center sponsored by Children's Hospital and Research Center at Oakland. Open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Suggested donation: \$2. Children under three are free. Details: 510-549-1564.

■ **The East Bay School for Girls** will move to St. John's Presbyterian Church and Center at 2727 College Ave., in Berkeley. This new location is at the corner of Forest, two blocks north of Ashby, and will provide expanded classroom and outdoor play space for the growing number of EBSG students. The move will take place over the summer vacation. School opens in late August.

new campus. Details: 462-4444.

■ **Teen Support Group** meets twice a month Tuesday evenings at the Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Ave. The free group is for teens who have a parent or caregiver with cancer. The meeting is co-facilitated by a teen whose mother had breast cancer. Details: 531-7551.

■ **Check out books** from the Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center Library. Spend quality time with your kids, meet with the children's librarian, research your Jewish roots or check out best sellers. The library is located at 1414 Walnut St. Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays. For details, call 848-0237.

■ **Hall of Health**, 2230 Shattuck Ave., a health exhibit museum of Children's Hospital Oakland, presents free puppet shows, 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Kids on the Block, the award-winning educational puppet troupe, features puppets with such conditions as cerebral palsy, blindness and Down syndrome. The Hall of Health is a hands-on community, health-education museum and science center sponsored by Children's Hospital Oakland and Alta Bates Medical Center. Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. Details: 549-9682.

■ **El Cerrito** offers special programs for children from 22 months to 5 years of age. These programs are designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave

their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified supervision. The program for ages 22 months to 3 1/2 years meets Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is continuous as long as space is available. Located at 7007 Mooser Lane. For details, call Jude, 215-4371.

■ **LGBTQ Parent and Prospective Parent Groups** meet the first Saturday of the month 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with concurrent child care. All groups meet at the Pacific Center at 2712 Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley. Donations are requested, but not required. Details: Anna at familyprogram@yahoo.com or 415-789-8560.

■ **The Ann Martin Children's Center** offers eight "Support Groups For Mothers," sessions for first time mothers and babies their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. Details: 524-0821.

Classes

■ **ASSETS Senior Employment**, job training program for income-eligible Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley or Albany residents, 55 and older, offer classes in Early Childhood Development. Seniors can receive college credits while being paid. Classes start mid-November. Call 238-3535 for more information.

■ **The Albany Library**, 1247 Marin

Ave., offers free, ongoing chess instruction Tuesdays, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The lessons range from fundamental to advanced topics, and also casual play. This program is led by David Pruess, who holds the Senior Master title and is one of the top chess players and teachers in California. All levels are welcome and chess sets are provided. Call Julie Winkelstein at 510-526-3720 ext. 19.

■ **University of California Botanical Garden** holds a free Sick Plant Clinic on the first Saturday of every month, 9 a.m. to noon. UC Plant pathology and entomology experts will diagnose what ails your plant. UC Botanical Garden is at 200 Centennial Dr. in Berkeley. For information, call 510-643-2755.

■ **Folkdance classes**, Mondays 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Arlington Community Church, 53 Arlington Ave. (across from the Kensington Library). Simple, clear lessons for people of all levels. Emphasis is good music and fun. Cost: \$30 for 6-week session (prorated fees apply), \$8 for drop in session. Details: Mel Harte, at 848-5289 before 9 p.m.

■ **Vista Community College**, 2020 Milvia St., offers its new Sunrise College this spring with classes in accounting, e-commerce, business, Java programming, English, ESL, statistics and Spanish for business professionals. Classes start at 7 a.m. and end at 9 a.m. Call 981-2800 for more information.

■ **Assets Senior Employment** offers a job training program for income-eligible people 55 and older living in Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley and Albany. Earn when you learn. Interested in working with children? You can receive college credit in Early Childhood Development while being paid. Details: 238-3554.

■ **Julia Morgan Center for the Arts**, 2640 College Ave., offers a family-friendly program of classes, workshops and activities taught by professional teaching artists, all aimed at bringing arts participation into people's everyday lives. Classes take place at the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts. For details, including class descriptions, fees, and instructor bios, call 845-8542 or see www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **The Berkeley Adult School** offers Adult Basic Education classes, High School Diploma Requirement classes, General Educational Development Preparation classes which can be utilized to earn a GED certificate, and Preparation for US Citizenship classes. The classes are free. BAS also offers, for an affordable fee, a variety of vocational classes and computer classes, ranging from introduction to Computers

to Advanced Computer Applications. Details: 644-8130.

■ **The South Berkeley Senior Center**, 2939 Ellis St., offers a variety of services. Details: 883-5222.

■ **Interview Clinics** sponsored by Point Center at the YWCA Bancroft Way, are held on Mondays from 9-11 by appointment. 30-minute sessions are \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. Call 848-6370 and leave a message to reserve an appointment time, name and telephone number.

■ **A free CopWatch class** held Monday nights from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 2022 Blake St. near Shattuck. Your rights. Details: 548-0425.

■ **Berkeley Community Workshop** offers affordable class production and editing to students. Free orientations classes introduce BCM to the public. Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. Details: 2288 and ask for Patricia.

■ **Ashkenaz**, 1317 San Pablo

See CALENDAR, Page 2

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Auto Plus

Friday, August 24, 2001

Advertising supplement to The Montclair, The Piedmont, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Classic Classics: MGB still going strong [D3]

DAVE VAN SICKLE
Senior Editor

Most gas-saving gadgets fall short of touted claims

When gasoline prices began to rise, so did motorists' concerns about fuel economy. A jump in gas prices has been accompanied by a surge in the sale of gas-saving devices. But many of these gadgets, advertised by claims that they can save as much as 10 percent on fuel, are little more than gimmicks. The Federal Trade Commission has warned consumers to be wary of gadgets that claim to be magical devices or to do anything that defies the laws of physics. According to the FTC, most fuel-saving devices and additives simply don't work, and even those that do, produce disappointing results. In fact, several devices actually increase exhaust emissions, and under federal regulations, that could be considered a violation.

After existing for over 100 years, the EPA has issued regulations that would only allow a few that actually improve fuel economy. The agency has also issued a list of 12 different categories of gadgets that don't work, including:

- Air- and water-based devices that add air to the intake manifold.
- Liquid additives that are marketed as fuel savers in the market.
- Ignition modulators, most of which replace existing ignition parts.

See DOWN, Page D2

Acura RSX makes shifting much more enjoyable

TOM KEANE
Senior Editor

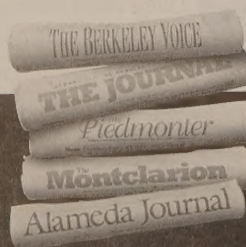
Acura RSX Type-S is a fun little sports car to drive and much roomier and less noisy than expected. The ride is a bit bouncy, but everything else is just what you need to make a fun little sports car a lot more enjoyable.

In spite of summer's heat, the RSX Type-S is a fun little sports car to drive and much roomier and less noisy than expected. The ride is a bit bouncy, but everything else is just what you need to make a fun little sports car a lot more enjoyable.

The RSX Type-S has a 200-horsepower, 2-liter four-cylinder engine. It is not powerful, but it is a fun little sports car to drive and much roomier and less noisy than expected. The ride is a bit bouncy, but everything else is just what you need to make a fun little sports car a lot more enjoyable.

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Calendar

PAGE A6

...dance classes ranging from ...to ...Lindy Hop and ...Swing. Ashkenazi is a non- ...and dance community cen- ...Details: 525-5054.

...College and Ceramics ...St. John's Senior ...College Ave., Tuesday ...to noon. All are wel- ...Sponsored by Berkeley ...Details: 845-8830.

...Women's Issues ...North Berkeley ...Hearst St. Free ...by the Berkeley Adult ...Friday ...to noon. Open to all ...Details: 644-6107.

...Fitness Classes open to ...Alto-Brazilian, belly ...swimming, ballroom, tap, the- ...yoga, chi, ching, tai chi, ...body conditioning ...at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft ...Drop in fees: \$8-10. In- ...Details: 845-8370.

...Spring and Jitterbug; 7 p.m. be- ...Intermediate; ...classes beginning the ...of the month; Finnish ...1970 Chestnut, ...549-3591; \$40 ...Details: 845-8370.

Community

...Neighborhood Comput- ...organization, provides ...high-demand computer ...for disadvantaged ...individuals. The organization ...and networking equip- ...for training purposes. All ...are tax deductible. Details: ...or email: bnc@netvalue.net.

...Camera Club meet Tues- ...at the Northbrae ...Church, 941 The Alameda, ...Share slides and prints, learn ...other photographers are doing ...Details: 525-3565.

...Pounds Off Sensibly ...CA 1294 is now meeting from ...every Thursday evening ...at UCC Church, 7075 Cutting ...a non-profit organization ...men and women in weight con- ...Betty Coates at 235-0490.

...Point at the YWCA, 2600 ...sponsors Resume Clinics ...afternoons, or by appoint- ...sign up for an appointment, ...several days before ...to meet. Anne Lavine ...in Design and Edu- ...for the past 10 years, she has ...producing numerous re- ...part of her desktop pub- ...Details: 848-6370.

...Office of Emergency Ser- ...a new series of free ...Emergency Response Train- ...The classes give basic ...information, including hand- ...in fire suppression, light ...and rescue, and disaster first ...classes are held at the fire de- ...Emergency Operations Cen- ...St. The classes are open ...or older, who lives or ...Berkeley. Register: 644-8736.

...Art Museum, Pacific Film ...a guided tour of Equal ...Men and Women Principals in ...Architectural Practice ...by graduate students from ...Department of Archi- ...College of Environmental De- ...minating Thursdays at 12:15 ...on Sundays at 2 p.m. Details: ...Details: 525-5231.

...do it now. Stand up ...what you mean. Come prac- ...noon to 1 p.m. at 700 ...Call 865-6708 for details.

...rights activists needed. Write ...chapter of Berkeley, Albany, ...and Kensington, P.O. Box ...Berkeley, CA, 94701.

...Buddhist, volunteers needed ...people in early stage ...Disease. Minimum sex-

month commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nannette Lipton, 644-8292.

■ **Psychic Healing** clinic; 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays; free clinic at the Academy for Psychic Studies in Berkeley, aura, cleansing, stress relief; 800-642-9355.

■ **SMART project**; the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting a study to compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8802 and agreeing to do three interviews, individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

■ **The Edible Schoolyard**, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335.

■ **English-In-Action** lets you make friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour a week. YWCA, at Berkeley, Call 843-9716.

■ **Women's Daytime Drop-in** Center in Berkeley; serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For details call 466-5663.

Exhibits

■ **The Magnes Museum** presents three new exhibitions in its Berkeley location, 2911 Russell St., through Feb. 16. The exhibits include "Hidden in the Walls: The time Capsule from San Francisco's Lost Sanctuary," "Stephanie Snyder; Hamakom (The Place)," and "Sharing the Screen: Israelis and Palestinians in the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, 1981-2002." Admission: Suggested donation: \$4 adults; \$3 students and seniors. Museum members and children under 12 free. For more information, call 415-591-8900 or visit the Web site at www.magnesmuseum.org.

■ **Berkeley and El Cerrito** artists are featured in the nation's largest women's crafts fair Nov. 23-24 and Nov. 30-Dec. 1 at Fort Mason, Festival Pavilion in San Francisco. The Berkeley artists include glassblower Holly Wallace, painter Lisa Horner, jeweler designers Carol Mortensen and Caramila Visick, ceramist Daina Heisters, Sculptor Sharon Wheat, clothing designers Linda Lettis and Hildegard Wilson, woodworker Heidi Tarver, egg shell artist Brooke Patterson, and El Cerrito artists Judy Stone, and creator of one-of-a-kind decorative, switch plates and functional objects, and jewelry designer Jayne Thomas. Admission: \$7 adults; \$5 for seniors and free for children under twelve. A two-day pass is \$10. For Mason Center is located at Buchanan Street and Marina Boulevard. Details: 415-383-3470 or check out www.teamproevent.com.

■ **The Richmond Museum of History** continues exhibits highlighting Richmond's agricultural beginnings, industrial achievements, and home-front contributions during World War II. Special exhibits and events are held throughout the year. The museum is located in the historic 1910 Carnegie Library in the Old Downtown area at Fourth Street and Nevin Ave. Details: 235-7387.

■ **El Cerrito** presents Open Clay Studio ongoing classes on Mondays, 7-9 p.m. Experience with clay is helpful, but not necessary. Opportunities will be provided for students to explore areas of clay work. Demonstrations and instruction will be provided on requests. Admission: \$7.50 residents, \$9.38 nonresidents. The location: Tassajara Pottery Center, 2575 Tassajara Boulevard. For more details call Judie at 215-4371.

■ **Alta Bates Medical Center** presents work by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley.

The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for information.

■ **New Places Gallery** on Solano Avenue shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m. except major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

Health

■ **Charcot Marie Tooth** support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuro-pathic disorder. Details: 524-3506.

■ **YWCA Health and Community Education**; drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way; 848-6370; \$8 - \$10.

Lecture/workshop

■ **Norwegian peace researcher** and mediator Johan Galtung talks on "Creating Peace in a Post 9/11 World," at 5 p.m. Nov. 17 at the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalist, 1924 Cedar St. at Bonita in North Berkeley. Galtung will be interviewed on stage by author/activist Joanna Macy after his talk and prior to audience question and answers. The talk will be preceded by a reception from 4 to 5 p.m. with light refreshments and live music. A \$10 donation for the talk; \$25 for talk and reception. No one turned away for lack of funds. For more information, visit the Web site at www.transcend.org, or call Ingrid at 510-526-2900.

■ **The Berkeley Camera Club** meets every Tuesday evening, at 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. For more information, call Don at 510-525-3565 or visit the Web site at www.berkeleyscameracub.org.

■ **Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community** has expanded its collection of contemporary fiction, nonfiction and children's books. Meet the children's librarians, research your Jewish roots or check out best sellers. The library is open to the public. Hours: 11 and to 3 p.m. Monday through Tuesday; 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays. For more information, call 848-0237.

■ **Tai Chi Chuan** and Chi-kung classes take place at Berkeley Unitarian Church at 7 p.m. on Wednesday evenings and 9 a.m. Saturday mornings at Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, 1924 Cedar St. People of all ages and physical conditions are welcome to practice. Donation: \$65. To sign up call 268-4995.

■ **The YWCA** offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center. The orientations outline the resources available to the public as well as the different things that the center has to offer such as a great variety of workshops. They are held every Tuesday, at 1:30 p.m. The Turning Point Career Center is located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For more details call 848-6370.

■ **Learn Computer** applications for the "working" world using Windows '95 and '98, Microsoft Office 2000 software, Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Publisher. Class is Monday-Friday, 2:15-6:15 p.m. Location: Contra Costa County Office of Education, 13925 San Pablo Ave., Suite No. 111, San Pablo. Details: 237-0840 or www.cccoe.k12.ca.us/rop.

■ **"What Is Meditation,"** is a peaceful and practical introduction to the basics of meditation. The free seminar takes place at Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 2352 Shattuck Ave. Pragato Dove is the facilitator. Details: 644-0861.

■ **Emotions Anonymous:** Twelve-Step meetings every Sunday at 8 p.m. Call 238-8226 for Berkeley location.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Salman's 'Stories'

A **YOUNG BOY WHO MUST** stop a cult master living on the dark side of the moon from silencing all the world's stories is at the center of Salman Rushdie's "Haroun and the Sea of Stories," a fantasy play getting its West Coast premiere at Berkeley Repertory Theatre. The play is recommended for kids 12 and older. "Haroun and the Sea of Stories" plays Tuesdays through Sundays through Jan. 7 at the Roda Theatre, 2015 Addison St., Berkeley. Tickets are \$10-\$54. Contact 510-647-2949, www.berkeleyrep.org.

Literary Events

■ **The Albany Library** presents an Open Mike and featured Poet series on the first Thursdays and second Wednesdays of the month in the Edith Stone Room. The library is located at 1247 Marin Ave. and is a branch of the Alameda County Library. Details: Julie Winkelstein, 510-526-3720 ext. 19.

■ **The Reading Edge** is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Alameda Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call at 644-6648 to set up a training session.

Meetings

■ **Friendship Circle**, a Jewish club for older adults, meet 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays, at the Oakland Senior Center, 200 Grand Avenue. The club is an outreach program of Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center. Activities include day trips, Jewish holiday celebrations, theater outings, entertainment, speaker and much more. Details: Maria at 848-0237 ext. 115.

■ **Improve your speaking skills** by at-

tending Berkeley Communicators' Toastmaster meetings, the first and third Wednesdays each month at 7:15 a.m. at Vault's Cafe, 3250 Adeline St. Call 527-2337 for more information.

■ **The Berkeley Camera Club** meets Tuesday evenings 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. Details: 525-3565.

■ **Disabled American Veterans** Chapter 25 meets on the third Tuesday of the month. The evening begins with a no host dinner and fellowship at 7 p.m. at 2068 Center St. A short business meeting follows at 8 p.m. at 1931 Center St., the Veterans Memorial Building. Price: \$3. Women who have had relatives in the US Military are invited to attend and join the auxiliary. For more information, call R. DeRiti, Cmdr. D.A.V. Chapter 25, 916-372-8364.

■ **The YWCA** offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center. The orientations outline the resources available to the public and the great variety of workshops held every Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. The Turning Point Career Center is located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For more information, call 848-6370.

■ **The Berkeley Avatar** Metaphysics Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Thursdays, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., at 2515 Hillegass Ave. Public speaking

skills and metaphysics come together. For details, call 869-2547 or 643-7645.

■ **Berkeley Toastmasters Club** meet monthly, the first and third Thursdays at 2515 Hillegass Ave. The group specializes in developing its communication and public speaking skills in the field of metaphysics. The group also learn from each other through short speeches. Call Odette Larde at 869-2547 or 643-7645.

■ **The Kensington Senior Activity Center** meets on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The center's community program of life-long learning is presented by the West Contra Costa Adult School. Attend any class or event you choose. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Details: 526-9146 or 547-1969.

■ **The YWCA** offers free orientations every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The orientations outline the center's resources and the variety of workshops it offers to the public. For details call 848-6370.

■ **Speak Smart!** Join Beijing Express Toastmasters, The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2068 Center St. Details: 549-9671.

■ **Toastmasters Meeting:** Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley. Call 883-6708 for more information.

NOW OPEN!

Attention all street-smart shoppers. Bay Street is now open and on the top of your list for hot new destinations. Come check out our savvy collection of must-see stores and restaurants. Experience the height of urban sophistication and be a part of the most happening street scene in town. When you're looking for the freshest selection and atmosphere, don't just hit any street. Head for Bay Street.

From 180 North
Exit Powell Street
Left on Powell
Right on Christie

From 880 South
Take 80 East
Exit Ashby Ave./Shellmound
Right on Shellmound

From 580 East
Exit San Pablo Ave.
Right on San Pablo Ave.
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Officials warn senior neighborhoods to watch for fraud

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before buying

Karl Fischer
STAFF WRITER

leak. Pave-
Not to worry, Louis
told his customers.
He'd even be their

year-old Oakland man
his handyman skills
in the Berkeley Hills
years back, mending
trees and keeping
out for his favorite

they were elderly,
disabled, some
they could not remem-
addresses. And they
planned when he billed
for his job twice or seven
times.

He was sentenced to 24
months last spring, Wat-
son said. He was a poster child for a
law enforcement
crack down on home-
based and unlicensed
because of the harm they
inflicted.

recent attention to "el-
crimes, local author-
ties East Bay's gray-
ing neighborhoods remain prime
targets for unlicensed handymen
and unskilled mug-
gled by organized
crime artists.

the state keeps no sta-
tioning the arrest and
of home-repair
investigators say much of
results from police
years as public
years in stopping elder

most, a lot of (prose-
would not see them as
cases," said Carl Vega,
Berkeley fraud investiga-
tor. Contractors State Li-
censing Board, the agency that
the state's construction
would simply be

away

AGE 1

larger effort to make
on the south and
of the city more at-
community development
Kaimach has said.
one of those moments
good to be on the
Mark Friedman, who
he voted.

of Baxter Creek co-
Marianne Aberg, who
proval role in acquiring
thanked the city staff,

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SOME TIPS

To avoid contractor fraud:

- Unless you call them, don't let salespeople into your house.
- Before allowing a contractor into your home, check his or her license with the Contractors State License Board on the Internet at www.cslb.ca.gov or toll-free at 800-321-CSLB.
- Never let strangers see where you keep a purse, wallet or checkbook.
- Check the identification of any service or repairperson or contractor.
- If anyone suspicious comes to the door, call the local police.
- Don't pay cash.
- Refuse to pay up front for materials and don't let payments get ahead of the work to be performed.
- Don't be intimidated into withdrawing funds from your bank.
- Always get a written and signed contract in advance for home repairs or improvements.
- If you suspect that you or someone you know is the victim of elder abuse, call the Adult Protective Services hotline at 510-567-6894.

Source: Contractors State Licensing Board

some homeowner paid for unnecessary work."

"Unnecessary" does no justice to the job Watson performed for four of his customers, who lost a combined \$115,000 in 1999 and 2000, according to court records. He took \$9,875 from a blind Berkeley woman to erect a fence over a manhole near her property.

Watson collected eight checks totaling more than \$14,000 from a 93-year-old Berkeley man with Alzheimer's disease for shoddy fence work and gardening he didn't do. In another case, he tried to take a \$100,000 "loan" from an Alzheimer's sufferer.

Thieves choose the elderly, authorities say, because older people tend to share the right char-

acteristics to make crime pay. They save comfortable retirement nest eggs, are sometimes isolated from neighbors and come from a more trusting generation.

The sort of people folks like Watson are looking for, in other words, are people like Jeff Brackett's 81-year-old mother, who suffers from Alzheimer's-related dementia. She hired a gardener last winter. Three months later she had lost half her life savings.

"I looked in her checkbook and ... she'd paid him almost \$50,000. He took about half (of her life's savings) ... and he would have taken it all," Brackett said. "The day I threw him out of there she was on me to butt out and leave him alone because he was her friend. He had actually convinced her that they were friends."

The Contra Costa District Attorney's office has filed charges of elder abuse and contracting without a license against Stephen Smith, who runs Concord-based Sterling Landscape, in connection with that case.

An army of tricksters

Burly men might knock on the door with "material left over from a job down the street." They say the roof looks leaky. Once inside for a "free inspection," they find masonry cracks or, aided by a concealed bottle, wet spots on the floor. Repairs always cost more than quoted.

In recent years, licensing board investigators found contractors who sprayed used motor oil on wood roofs to "weatherproof" them, patched driveways with lukewarm asphalt and tore up floorboards, then left without laying down new flooring after they were paid.

The difference these days, authorities say, is that police now follow up.

"It's not like driving without a license any more," Vega said. "Lots of people have been victimized, and consumers really need to be aware of who they hire."

Several police departments,

with help from the Contractors State Licensing Board, run undercover stings to net unlicensed contractors. Last week in Kensington, detectives cited 23 unlicensed contractors in two days while posing as a restaurateur planning to renovate a vacant Colusa Avenue storefront.

While not all unlicensed contractors harbor criminal intentions, affluent towns like Kensington tend to attract the wrong sort of worker, police Cpl. Danny Jeffries said.

"We've had some pretty serious cases of elder abuse here. The elderly are prime targets ... but now the predator becomes the prey," Jeffries said. "This is pretty new. Not a lot of departments are doing this."

The licensing board, which created its Statewide Investigative Fraud Team during the early 1990s, also performs impromptu stings when the possibility of arresting an egregious offender crops up.

A successful sting

It happened Feb. 1 near Olivera Road in Concord, when local police and the district attorney's office caught wind of a landscaper who extracted \$77,000 from a 64-year-old woman in 11 days.

The woman's daughter called police after her terrified mother said 38-year-old Paea Heloto Hausia had tapped on her window one evening to "remind" her that she owed another \$36,000 the following morning. She didn't have the money.

Hausia, a large man who later spent nine months in county jail through a plea agreement, arrived at the house the following morning and spoke to investigators posing as the woman's children. During that conversation, court records show, he asked for an additional \$73,000. Police arrested him on the spot.

Hausia never quoted an initial price, according to court records. He simply appeared in the victim's front yard one morning with big plans. He admired her home but said she could use a

new yard, a better front fence, a new deck and driveway. She gave him \$9,000 on the spot.

What the victim, who declined interview requests, received in return was substandard concrete and fence work, an order from the city to tear down the project because it lacked permits, and repeated visits from Hausia and his workers, who demanded thousands of dollars nearly every day to keep working.

A Contra Costa district attorney's office investigation yielded several more elderly victims in the neighborhood, many of whom said they were intimidated by the contractor and had trouble getting him to complete their work, some so poorly done it required repairs.

Hausia received a suspended seven-year prison sentence and some unique probation conditions, including prohibitions against possessing construction tools and several other common household items, including plastic sprinkler pipe and sod.

"The probation terms were designed to keep him out of unlicensed contracting," said Dana Filkowski, the deputy district attorney who prosecuted the case.

Race against time

Tools prosecutors use to turn misdemeanor tickets for contracting without a license into felony convictions for scamming seniors are part of a body of elder abuse laws passed by the state legislature during the 1990s.

But to win a conviction, prosecutors must often rely on testimony from elderly witnesses. Time is not on their side. Just ask Bill Tingle, an Alameda County deputy district attorney who fought a two-year battle in an Oakland court to convict Watson.

"Some (witnesses) deteriorate quickly. You can just see the decline, senility taking over," Tingle said. "Many times the court doesn't get to those cases fast enough to memorialize their testimony."

So the Legislature passed a law in 1999 allowing video-taped testimony from some victims in

elder abuse cases. Tingle could not have proved elder abuse against a 93-year-old Berkeley Alzheimer's patient without it.

"We videotaped his statement about a year before the trial. He couldn't (testify). He just couldn't do it physically," Tingle said. "It was just remarkable how in December I could interview him and qualify him as a witness, but when we got into the process in July ... it was just sad."

Tingle recalled one victim who did testify, 80-year-old Alzheimer's sufferer James Andrade.

"Mr. Andrade lived in a very nice, single-story home in the Broadway Terrace neighborhood. It was his pride and joy. He liked to keep the yard clean and the house spotless. He'd lived at home with his mother until she died" more than 30 years ago, Tingle said.

Court transcripts show Andrade spent an excruciating two days on the witness stand last year, during which he repeatedly lost track of time, court events and basic personal information, such as where he lived.

Police don't know how Andrade met Watson. They do know Andrade wrote his first check to Watson on June 6, 2000, to fix a retaining wall in his back yard. It was the first of nine checks for bogus repairs to a retaining wall, fence and chimney totaling \$46,525.

Watson also received \$14,950 in "loan" money and \$11,625 for unspecified reasons from Andrade, and on Oct. 31, 2000, financial records show Andrade tried to "lend" Watson \$100,000 from an annuity he held.

A concerned banker stopped the transaction. Andrade had no memory of it when he testified.

"The saddest part is ... to this day, I believe Mr. Andrade believes Mr. Watson is his friend," Tingle said.

Reach Karl Fischer at 510-262-2728 or kfischer@cctimes.com.

the council, members of the Friends of Baxter Creek, and many more for their support.

Now the city and the Friends will work on fund-raising and grant-writing, finding ways to clean up the area, plant native trees and vegetation and restore the creek to a more natural, meandering course.

The city began serious efforts to buy the parcel in 2000, when the fire department cleaned up overgrown vegetation there as part of an effort to reduce the fire hazard.

The fire department went to

contact the owner of the property to get reimbursed for the fire abatement work and discovered it was the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company — which was interested in selling.

A grant application to the Coastal Conservancy to fund acquisition of the property and restore Baxter Creek resulted in an offer of \$350,000 with the city asked to provide the remaining \$50,000.

Small attempts to make the area more inviting have included

a weathered "Baxter Creek" sign created years ago by Girl Scouts, and a box filled with Friends of Baxter Creek fliers.

The property will also serve as an extension of the Ohlone Greenway trail, which the city wants to connect with the Central Richmond Greenway — which in turn connects with the San Francisco Bay Trail on the west side of San Pablo Avenue.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or alopez21@ectimes.com.



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"Networking"

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7:15-7:30 am - Breakfast

7:30-9:00 am - Meeting

9:00-9:30 am - Networking



Help celebrate the five-year anniversary of the East Bay Women in Business Roundtable (EBWIBR) by attending the annual December table-changing networking event designed to take networking to a whole new level. Caterina Rando, an award-winning professional speaker, trainer and facilitator, will be the facilitator and will lead the group through the exercise.

Rando is an international speaker, life and business success coach, and author of "Learn to Power Think" from Chronicle Books. She is featured as a success expert in three leading business books: "Get Clients Now!", "The 11 Commandments of Wildly Successful Women," and the "NAFE Guide to Starting Your Own Business."

Rando is known for her interactive, high-energy and high-content programs. She has helped hundreds of people create the personal and professional lives they want. All past EBWIBR co-chairs have been invited to be table hostesses and will be recognized for their insight, vision, and leadership as part of the celebration of EBWIBR's fifth full year as an organization. Please be prepared to vote for the 2003 new Steering Committee members as part of this high energy, dynamic December breakfast.

Women in Business Roundtable

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* SELECT (A study of selenium and vitamin E) is funded by the National Cancer Institute and is conducted in the East Bay by the Bay Area Tumor Institute. SELECT is the largest nationally recognized cancer prevention research program serving the USA and Canada

Potter

FROM PAGE A1

there would make her unwilling to consider alternatives to housing at the proposed development at the Del Norte BART station.

Developer Charlie Oewel has been making plans to develop property currently used as BART parking lots. He has said he may need other properties around the station for such plans. Councilwoman Gina Brusatori said that if Oewel runs into roadblocks during private negotiations for the adjacent properties, he might ask the council to exercise eminent domain to obtain the land.

Brusatori said that with Potter on board, the council now has the necessary four votes to exercise eminent domain. Oewel was among the biggest financial supporters of Potter's election bid. According to financial statements filed with the city, Oewel donated \$10,000 on behalf of efforts to get Potter elected. The donations did not go directly to her campaign.

Several residents, including Brusatori, have condemned such donations. Developers and outside companies contributed \$18,500 not directly to Potter but in support of her campaign.

"This needs to be nipped in the bud," Brusatori said of the outside influence of developers.

O'Keefe has called for limiting campaign contributions to \$1,000, an idea Brusatori agreed with. In addition, Brusatori and others have called for an investigation by the city attorney into what they consider shady campaign practices: They said mailers funded by the developers didn't properly identify their sponsors and printed a non-existent address as a contact.

Out of the loop

Potter has seemed like the

calm in the eye of the storm while the controversy went on around her. She insists she knew nothing about the support given to her by developers and only accepted contributions from individuals.

She warned that too many retail businesses along San Pablo Avenue would result in those businesses cannibalizing each other.

"El Cerrito needs to look at a balance of uses that would be sustainable," Potter said.

Those who favor placing affordable housing on San Pablo Avenue see Potter as a welcome addition to the council.

Mayor Janet Abelson, who endorsed Potter during her campaign, said the new member will give the council the support it needs to give the city sound mixed-use developments.

Design Review Board member Steve Price — who served with Potter on the Planning Commission from 1998 to 1999 — agreed.

"My sense is she has the maturity and strength of character where she is her own person and will think objectively about issues," said Price, who was the one planning commission member who voted against the Plaza use permit.

As a council member, Potter said, she wants to continue her work advancing children's and environmental issues. She is the mother of two young girls, and a member of the Portola Middle and Madera Elementary school PTAs.

Backstory

Growing up in the southern California coastal town of Palos Verdes, Potter, 42, loved the outdoors and became fascinated by the way environmental conditions shape the landscape. She earned a master's degree in environmental geology from Hum-

boldt State University in 1988 and a bachelor's degree in environmental studies from UC-Santa Barbara in 1981.

Potter and her husband, Philip Martien, bought a house in El Cerrito in 1991. Potter says she liked the urban environment, yet appreciated that the city was less hectic than Oakland, where she had been living. She's worked as a self-employed geologist and is now an environmental planner on the Regional Water Quality Board, which oversees water quality in the Bay Area.

While on the planning commission, Potter said, she used her background as a geologist to bring environmental issues to the forefront. She'd like to see the city create policies on protecting creeks and heritage trees from development instead of looking at them on a case-by-case basis.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.



Fish tale

JOHN STEINBECK
"CANNERY ROW"
humorous account of the canning industry of the County during the Depression years. The literary work to be done by the San Francisco company Word for the group will tackle changes the novel in a production moves to Berkeley. Pictured are Andrew and Beattie Pompa.
"Cannery Row" (Chapman) 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Saturdays and 5 p.m. Sun. Dec. 1 at Julia Morgan Arts, 2640 College Ave. Tickets are \$25. Contact 6775, www.zspace.org

Gill

FROM PAGE A1

for agricultural research by UC Berkeley students and faculty.

Urban Roots, a group comprised of UC Berkeley students and Albany and Berkeley residents, has proposed an alternative that would contain most of the development south of Village Creek, allowing the 14.6-acre Gill Tract to be preserved.

About 17 people came to the meeting to support the Urban Roots proposal, saying the Gill Tract should be saved and possibly used as a field laboratory, research facility, urban food production center or community gathering place. Several residents spoke of saving the land for future generations.

Michael Beer, a kindergarten teacher at Ocean View Elementary School, said he took his students to the Gill Tract and they were fascinated by it.

"We could do a lot more of that but only if we keep the Gill Tract as it has been," Beer said. "We don't want to throw away this valuable resource."

Rex Higginbotham, president of Albany Little League and Albany School Board member Marcia Skinner reiterated their support for replacing the ball fields because there are so few fields in the area where Little League can be played.

Planning and Zoning Commissioner Dolores Dalton said there should be a way both groups can get what they want.

"I'm sure we could do both and not put both of these parts of the community against each other," Dalton said.

The university is looking at proposals created by two design teams to replace the housing. The proposal chosen will likely change significantly before construction begins, according to university officials.

In one plan, created by developer TMG Partners, two- to four-story buildings with a total of 451 units would be built, along with 40,000 square feet of commercial space, including a 30,000-square-foot grocery store.

The other proposal, created by developer Allen & O'Hara, would have four-story buildings

with a total of 618 units, along with 70,000 square feet of commercial space, including a 37,500-square-foot grocery store.

Representatives from the Chamber of Commerce came out in favor of the TMG plan, which proposes fewer units, and therefore places less of a burden on city services. Resident David Arkin encouraged using the denser Allen & O'Hara plan because it preserves 57 percent of the area's open space.

Councilman Allan Maris said he wanted to make sure the proposals would take into account the development's consequences on parking, traffic and city services.

Albany School Board Superintendent William Wong cited similar concerns about possible increased school enrollment created by the project. University officials have said the new housing would be for graduate students and faculty without children.

The UC Regents will likely choose a design team by January, according to Bond. Next will come a year-long environmental review, followed by another approval by the UC Regents. Demolition and construction could begin soon after.

"The regents probably won't consider the project until early 2004," said Bond. "It's a long process."

Members of Urban Roots said they were pleased by the response they received. They will soon show their proposal to each group of the developers to see how the ideas of their plan can be integrated into the project, according to Urban Roots member Courtney Hall.

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Beautyrest	Beautyrest	Beautyrest
Pillow Top	Pillow Top	Pillow Top
Triple Choice	Triple Choice	Triple Choice
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Full Set \$549	Full Set \$779	Full Set \$949
King Set \$949	King Set \$1199	King Set \$1399

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Real Estate & Home

Friday, November 22, 2002

Section B

Oakland's Dunsmuir House: a storied past and wonderful future

BY DENNIS EVANOSKY
SECTION EDITOR

Oakland's Colonial Revival-style Dunsmuir House will open its doors next Friday to help the Bay Area celebrate the holidays. Festivities include holiday teas, a children's tea with Father Christmas, arts and crafts activities (face painting and more) and two gift shops (both Victorian and modern) featuring the work of 14 craftspeople.

The home, which is nestled in a secluded glade near Oakland's Knowland Park Zoo, has a storied past. Alexander Dunsmuir — the second son of Vancouver Island, Canada's first millionaire, Robert Dunsmuir — built this 37-room masterpiece for his wife, Josephine.

In 1878 Robert sent Alexander to manage the family business at his company's San Francisco office. Alexander's penchant for drink may have persuaded the family to banish their wayward son to America. Robert's vast holdings — which owed their existence to the 1869 discovery of Canada's unimaginably rich Wellington coal seam — included collieries, shipping and lumber interests, iron works, mines, waterworks, a railroad and a newspaper.

Alex, as he was known, met and fell in love with Josephine a year after he arrived in San Francisco. The relationship spelled trouble from the start. It seems Josephine already had a husband. To make matters worse in the eyes of polite Victorian society, she also had two small children.

At first, Alex and Josephine set up house — if you could call it that — by sharing adjoining rooms at San Francisco's Grand Hotel. He longed for the day when he no longer needed to carry on behind his mother and father's backs and could marry his beloved.

"With no money of his own, he dared not marry against the wishes of his disapproving par-

Join the celebration. For more about the holiday festivities at the Dunsmuir House, see B2.

ents," says the author of the Craigdoroch Castle — patriarch Robert's home in Vancouver) — Web site www.craigdoroch.org.

"I'd rather see Alex dead than married to that woman," his mother, Joan Olive White Dunsmuir reportedly said. A marriage to Josephine would result in his disinheritance from the Dunsmuir family fortune.

Robert died in 1889. It took Alex and his brother, James, 10 years to gain control of their father's company. Finally in 1899, without the threat of losing his inheritance, Alex could marry Josephine.

They purchased the Southern Farm that stretched over Oakland and San Leandro. Alex hired architect J. Eugene Freeman to design a wedding gift for his long-suffering beloved: a mansion, which even today makes an imposing site, with its three massive Corinthian columns flanked on each side by three Ionic columns.

On December 5, 1899, Alex married Josephine in a small ceremony in San Pablo. With their new home complete, the Dunsmuirs went on a honeymoon. Their trip included a visit to New York City to visit Josephine's daughter, Edna, who was performing as one of the original "Flordora Girls" on Broadway. (see box on B2).

In late January 1900, Alex died of meningitis at the Hotel Imperial in New York City. Josephine returned to her new home a widow.

Alex had arranged for his brother to take care of Josephine. James began sending \$2,000 a month: a generous



REACHING FOR THE SKY: The Dunsmuir House Christmas tree rises from the foot of the main staircase in the back area of the entrance hall into the art-glass dome, inset.

\$1,000 more than Alex had stipulated). Eighteen months after Alexander's death Josephine died of cancer.

Edna inherited the mansion, but not the money. With a career in New York, and no funds to operate a country estate, she rented the mansion out to the Hellman family of San Francisco.

I.W. Hellman was the son of the founder of the Nevada National Bank, which had merged with Wells Fargo Bank.

The Hellmans rented the mansion from 1901 to 1906, and then purchased it, renaming the estate "Oakvale Park."

They used it as a summer home until 1959. The city of

Oakland purchased the property in 1968.

The home is a National Historic Site and both the mansion and the carriage house are Oakland Historic Landmarks.

With its 37 rooms and 10 fireplaces, the home takes up more

See DUNSMUIR, Page B2

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Featured Property

WILTING! \$925,000

Beautiful Upper Rockridge Colonial with huge 12,000+ corner lot with bay view. Updated cottage-in-law building has lots. Plenty of storage and room for garden. Hot tub in gazebo. A must see!! 4160 Glen Gate Ave. Ken Nwokedi 510-339-4000

WOW! GORGEOUS! \$1,195,000

Home built with the finest materials, and striking throughout. The grand foyer opens to the main living areas from the formal dining & kitchen. The relaxing MBR Suite offers a private retreat & full bath w/ jacuzzi tub. The kitchen w/ granite, herringbone tile & custom cabinets is a home like no other! 10000 Glen Gate Blvd. Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400

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Grand master! 6 units on a very large lot. 3 in Piedmont. 3 beautiful, large 2 units could all be owner occupied, (even 1 owner de of ownership!) 10000 Glen Gate Blvd. Jim Schmitt 510-339-4000

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BEAUTY AT ITS BEST! \$875,000

If you enjoy traditional elegance, see this stunning 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath home. Thoughtfully updated, it offers spacious living, a gourmet kitchen, guest quarters—all picture perfect! Level garden. Near parks & transportation. 2345 Thackeray Dr. Mary Jane McConville 510-339-8400

OH BEAUTIFUL, FOR SPACIOUSNESS! \$868,000

This prestigious address has extra rooms and unlimited adaptability to enhance your lifestyle! Almost 3200 sq. ft. of ready-to-move-in living space for all your toys-work or play. Convenient to shops, restaurants and Lake Merritt. 700 Longridge Rosemary Greene 510-339-4000

DISTINCTIVELY DRAMATIC \$789,000

Crocker Highlands executive home. Traditional feel in Montclair style wildness with city style comfort. Magnificent tree views surrounded by exceptional finishes/craftsmanship, natural stone, custom HWF w/ rosewood trim. 1735 Trestle Glen Rd. Sherella Sims 510-339-4000

PIEDMONT SIDE OF MONTCLAIR \$799,000

New Price! Elegant 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with a view of San Francisco skyline. Beautiful upgraded bathrooms. Great indoor-outdoor living space—lovely gardens. Perfect condition. Walk to Village. 6430 Estates Dr. Jennie Lippincott 510-339-8400

JUST LISTED EICHLER! \$599,000

Impressive Eichler has open, spacious floorplan. Rooms for activities of the busy family. Walls of glass create inviting indoor/outdoor setting of comfort & serenity. 8159 Phaeton Rosemary Greene 510-339-4000

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PRIVATE RETREAT! \$599,000

This bright and airy Montclair home is close to Village & transportation. Offering canyon and peek of the Bay views, large great room, home office and an enormous family room w/ wet bar perfect for entertaining. 2049 Magellan Dr. Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400

ARTISTIC HIDEAWAY \$560,000

In Rockridge with space and charm. Ideal floorplan. Sunny 3 bedroom, 3 bath home with additional lot & artistic studio. Walk to BART, market and EZ freeway access. 426 51st St. Arnold Mueller 510-339-4000

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Charm abounds in this Glenview bungalow w/ traditional craftsman details throughout. Refined hardwoods, large eat-in kitchen w/ fir floor and a beautifully landscaped front and leveled backyard with deck & green lawn. 1046 Elbert St. Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400

EUROPEAN STYLE TOWNHOME \$439,000

Walk to Piedmont Ave. Beautiful, spacious 2-story 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse with attached garage. 99 A Monte Cresta Ave. Jennie Lippincott 510-339-8400

CLASSY 20'S TRI-LEVEL \$449,000

Mahogany trim, random plank floors, customized kitchen with breakfast room highlight this 3/2 San Leandro North Area home. New bath, rumpus & utility rooms downstairs. Large, sunny yard. 495 Lewis Ave., San Leandro Earle Shenk 510-339-4000

Open Sunday 11/24

LOVELY & SPACIOUS \$375,000

3 bedroom split-level craftsman with original built-ins and woodwork. Big, landscaped yard with a dog run. 3163 61st Ave. Nomi Robinson 510-339-4000

NEW LISTING!

Ultimate contemporary with distinct design. Only 3 years young, this home was custom designed by George Williams. Offering an extremely bright, thoughtful floorplan & just minutes to Montclair Village, this is truly a property to love and cherish! 1045 Aquarius Way Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400

RARE JULIA MORGAN GEM \$1,400,000

It has a penthouse on the top and a cottage in the rear. The sun-filled penthouse has marvelous views of San Francisco, Golden Gate and Bay bridges. Freshly updated with tile floors and new appliances. There are two Chioprac offices on the first floor, four vacant offices and a studio on the second floor of the main house. Large lot with off street parking. Oakland Piedmont border Linda Oliva 510-339-4000

By Appointment

THE ULTIMATE IN PRIVACY! \$549,000

A completely fenced, level yard will greet your guests as they enter bright & cheerful living areas. The remodeled kitchen w/ breakfast area opens to the brand new deck and the master suite w/ full bath is quiet and relaxing. Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400

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The private front deck & main entry are set back from the street & lead you to the bright living room w/ a wall of windows that bring the outside in. The charming kitchen w/ breakfast bar has been graciously remodeled. The secluded MBR suite on the lower level offers an enormous BR size closet, deck access and full bath. Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400

PRICE REDUCTION! \$469,000

For this tri-level 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Formal dining room, family room. Large lot so you can add a pool! Loads of potential, needs TLC! Patricia Williams and Linda Oliva 510-339-4000

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ALL DRESSED UP FOR CHRISTMAS: Oakland's Dunsmuir House will be ready to celebrate the holiday season next Friday. PHOTO COURTESY DUNSMUIR HOUSE

Dunsmuir House offers holiday treats galore

■ Come celebrate the 'Holiday Season at Dunsmuir House'

THE DUNSMUIR HOUSE

A Bay Area holiday tradition since 1971, the Holiday Season at Dunsmuir is the Bay Area holiday destination for all ages.

The Dunsmuir House & Gardens, located at 2900 Peralta Oaks Court in Oakland, offers mansion tours, carolers, a holiday craft marketplace and gift shop, holiday teas, carriage rides, children's activities, music, dance, visits from Father Christmas, and more.

"You'll experience holiday magic like this nowhere else in the Bay Area," said Marti Burchell, Dunsmuir's executive director.

"For those coming for the first time, to those who have been coming for the last 30 years, the 2002 Holiday Season at Dunsmuir promises to be the best ever."

The holidays are celebrated at the Dunsmuir House from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays: Nov. 29 to Dec. 1; Dec. 6 to Dec. 9 and Dec. 13 to 15 (The entrance gate closes at 4 p.m. each day.)

Admission includes a mansion tour. The prices listed below are advanced purchase prices. Ticket

prices increase \$4 per person at the gate on the event day. Adult ticket cost \$11; seniors (62 and up) pay \$10, juniors (ages 6 to 13) pay \$7; children under 6 are free. Groups of 10 or more pay \$9 per ticket when purchasing tickets in advance.

There is also a large group bonus: One additional free admission ticket is included with every 20 pre-paid group tickets purchased with one transaction. Group pricing is not available at the gate.

Mansion Tours

"Fifty volunteers, working over 8,000 hours, transform the Dunsmuir House into a breathtaking late 19th century holiday masterpiece," said Burchell. "Visitors start their self-guided tour in the grand foyer where their eyes are drawn to the magnificent two-story Christmas tree reaching toward the mansion's exquisite Tiffany-style stained glass dome."

"As the tour progresses, pleasant surprises abound," said Roselyn Matthews, sales and events manager. "The elegant trees and garlands, the antique furnishings, exquisite packages and festive decorations all add to the holiday experience."

Each room reveals the painstaking effort that Dunsmuir volunteers

undertake to create an enchanting atmosphere of a holiday season 100 years ago. Tours start every 15 minutes from 11:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and approximately 45 minutes.

Annual Holiday Soiree

There'll be something special in the air at the Dunsmuir House Thursday, Dec. 5 from 6:30 to 11 p.m. when the house presents its annual formal fundraising gala with hors d'oeuvres in the beautifully decorated mansion, horse-drawn carriage rides and dinner and dancing in the Garden Pavilion. The cost for this very special evening is \$150 per person.

Holiday Teas

Teas are served in the cozy Dinkelspiel House, an English-style cottage at the entrance to the estate grounds. Friends and family will enjoy hot "Holiday Blend" tea, delicious sweets, freshly baked scones, tea sandwiches and breads — all served by volunteers in period costumes. Teas are \$18 per person, regardless of age. (Advance reservation required.)

Children's Teas

For our young visitors - Children's Teas with Father Christmas on Saturday, Nov. 30 and Saturday, Dec. 7 at 11:15 a.m. are available. Children 13 and younger (with their

grown-up companion) will enjoy all of our Christmas tea delights, plus a few surprises children will love! (Advance reservation required.)

À la Carté Holiday Café

Our à la carté Holiday Café will offer sandwiches, soups, salads, desserts and beverages in the Garden Pavilion. (Reservations are not required.) Mosaic Catering will provide the sumptuous tea delicacies.

Holiday Entertainment

A trio of late 19th Century carolers singing traditional Christmas carols will be greeting visitors on the Estate grounds and at the entrance to the mansion throughout each day.

"Plan to sit for a while before or after your mansion tour and enjoy our scheduled holiday entertainment in the Garden Pavilion or on the mansion lawn, if the weather permits," said Burchell.

"An exciting variety of local community groups and professional entertainers will be here to entertain you."

Entertainment schedules will be included with tickets purchased in advance from the Box Office.

For additional information about the holiday events at the Dunsmuir House & Gardens Historic Estate, call 510-615-5555.

Tarpoff

FROM PAGE B1

charity. For awhile at least, if any of us misses something we've "given away," I can still retrieve it.

Books. We have lots of books. There are five good sized bookcases in the house plus books in my kids' rooms; also, in the kitchen where I spend most of my time, various reference books. I try, really try, and I usually succeed, to get rid of one already on the shelves for every new one I bring home.

Sometimes, if I'm at a flea market or garage sale, and I'm tempted to bring home a new pile of books, I say to myself, "I don't have room for all of these." And I limit myself to the one or two that I think I might actually read.

Files of paper are in the same category for me. When my small filing cabinet won't accept a new file because there simply isn't any more space, I look through what's in that drawer and throw something away. Sometimes it's an entire folder; other times I just root through and discard part of the contents.

After years of sticking photo envelopes in a desk drawer, I finally realized what my problem was. I thought I had to make decisions about each photo, whether to stick them all in an album or, if not, discard those that were not up to snuff. It was just too hard.

Then one day it came to me that I could simply select my favorite photos from each batch and file the rest away in a box.

That's what I now do. No agony involved. When I get photos back from the finisher, I immediately go through them, pick out the best and put them in albums. Once in awhile I go back to look at the lesser photos, often because I need a picture of the kids to send to a friend.

Cleaning out the fireplace. We love having fires and the ashes brought up. Our fireplace expert has trained us to lay fires directly on a moderate bed of ashes, but the mound grows too high.

It is often true that the ashes are still hot from a recent fire, so scooping them into the plastic buckets I use for garden weeds results in melted buckets. But I get smart. I bought a medium sized galvanized can with a lid.

Now I can scoop warm ashes into my can and wait a couple of days before transferring them to a plastic bag and throwing them away. (No, I don't use ashes in the garden, but some people do.)

Keeping the bathroom looking respectable is important to me. This one is so simple, I can't believe it took me 40 years of keeping house to think of it.

The kids leave toothpaste drippings and hair and such on the counter and in the sink. Drove me wild until I thought to keep a kitchen sponge next to the sink. Now, whenever I'm in the bathroom, I give a swipe to the surfaces — fast and effective. I do wish I could find a better looking sponge.

The shower stall. When we bought our house about eight years ago, the shower pan, and maybe the ceramic tile walls too, in the main bathroom leaked. We knew this because the bathroom floor was rotted and spongy.

It was going to be expensive to redo the tile and we weren't sure if that was all we would choose to do to the room, so rather than make any decisions, we looked for a stop

gap, a way to buy some

We painted the walls and floor with several coats of waterproof sealer and along the seams. Before the punky floor, we were sure no more water was coming from the shower. Even fine, but maybe we were I don't know whether I don't know whether it's still working for us.

Recently, desperate black spots from the grout of the shower poured bleach straight into the bottom of the tub and let it sit for a few most asphyxiated in the process, but it sure did now.

Our pantry store is playing store when I sister and I would use soup and fruit cans to mark our prices and one another. Now I have "store" and I love it.

There isn't sufficient kitchen for extra jars of water or Kleenex so I have an area in my basement shelves for storing my bounty.

I keep extras of everything we use, buy them they're on sale. Now we have the last of the blackboard of the kids says, "I'll go to the store."

I nailed scrap strips of the bottoms of some of the boards so I can stand up and cookie sheets upon which took two minutes, probably about this in a helpful way.

School supplies. I open that at 8 p.m. I'd say that a book report due morning had to be a report folder or that was due the next day and we had no such material.

It irked me no end to the grocery store also the hopes of finding the supplies until I finally gave up.

Now I always keep folders, poster and binder paper and glue and out markers. Problem solved.

I have discovered the ordinary scissors — not clippers or shears — for some tasks are unparalleled.

For snipping parsley for sheering back space, it will bloom again. I cut wood, cutting drapery as ivy and Santa Barbara, for deadheading many flowers like asters, scabiosa.

Instead of making individual cuts with shears, cut seemingly zillions at a time in a single snip.

Here's a housekeeping I haven't solved. Maybe a suggestion. There are covering the floors of the rooms almost all of the time. I know if they're dirty when I insist, all of the up in the laundry basket.

Apparently both clothes and drop them and stand. They also by on clothes to see if they want them and drop those too.

I probably did the same when I was their age. I drove my mother crazy.

Pat Talbert and Arnel be reached at 510-653-7444 or www.tarpoffandtalbert.com

Dunsmuir

FROM PAGE B1

than 16,000 square feet. John McClaren, who designed Golden Gate Park, supposedly helped the Hellmans with their magnificent gardens.

Many trees still exist from those days, to say nothing of a croquet court, tennis court, conservatory and swimming pool.

The city of Oakland planned to use the house as a conference site. Only one conference was held, however and the house was boarded up for over 10 years. The roof leaked.

Bees built hives in the walls of the decaying home. The city slated the house for demolition; it

wanted to sell the land for residential development.

Some local history buffs convinced the city to let them operate the site as a park. They began restoring the building and grounds. By the mid-1970s, enough major restoration was completed for the house to be opened for public tours.

Girl Scouts were trained as docents. Their information about the house primarily came from former Hellman family servants.

The Hellman servants did not speak well of Alex, the servants said, but they considered Josephine a sweetheart. The Hellmans felt sorry for Josephine. They said she did not die of cancer, but of a broken heart, and that her spirit haunts the house even today.

A 'Floradora Girl'

Josephine Dunsmuir's daughter from her first marriage, Edna, worked as a "Floradora Girl" in New York. Produced in 1900, the British musical comedy "Floradora" was the first theatrical sensation of the new century. It told the story of a young woman seeking not just romance, but the restoration of a stolen inheritance.

The comedy's sextet of "chorines" each stood 5 feet 4 inches tall and weighed a uniform 130 pounds. They became the rage of London and New York.

These ladies brought down the house when they joined the male chorus to sing the courtly "Tell Me Pretty Maiden" ("are there any more at home like you?") The show was revived successfully on Broadway in 1902, 1905 and 1920, touring extensively each time.

— Source: Musicals 101.com

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of the contract.

entiating funds

Buyer is now required to
the seller with written veri-
of the availability of the
payment and closing costs.
include a letter from the
lender or bank/money mar-
agents. A note from the nec-
essities may not be sufficient.

ome or all of the funds are
from others (relatives,
pendent sellers will insist
contingency that they be de-
into the buyer's account
the escrow begins.

most buyers, confirming
not be difficult as their
pre-approval process
have already verified them.
who make an offer without
pre-approval, however, will
have a harder time get-
the contract accepted.

to back out

usually have contingen-
financing and inspections,
such as the close of es-
another property. A contin-
is a condition that must be
in order for the contract to

buyer is not satisfied with
home, or cannot obtain the
within the contingency time
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and a refund of his deposit.

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open their doors to the pub-
lic. A variety of craft will be shown.
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ARTISANS, Page B4

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Statutory disclosures

There are numerous statutory
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smoke detectors and water heater
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A solid contract

Once the buyer has waived all
contingencies and acknowledged
all disclosures and reports, he is
obligated to close the escrow or,
otherwise, be responsible for pos-
sible damages to the seller.

An opportunity to take a job and
earn twice as much in another state
or last-minute problems in the buy-
ers' relationship are not legitimate
reasons to rescind the contract at
this stage.

Sellers need to be able to rely
on a buyer's promise to perform.
This is why, when representing sell-
ers, I suggest they ask for a sub-
stantial deposit so that the buyer
has a strong financial incentive to
close the escrow.

Final thoughts

It is your real estate professional
who should be guiding you through
the contract process. The best
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House hunting? Then turn to this week's Open Home Guide starting on B12.

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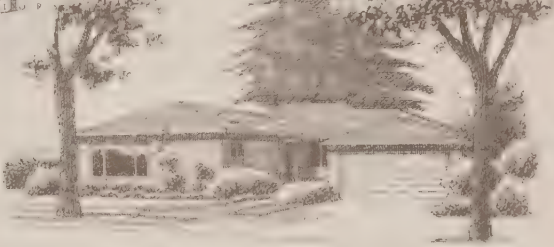
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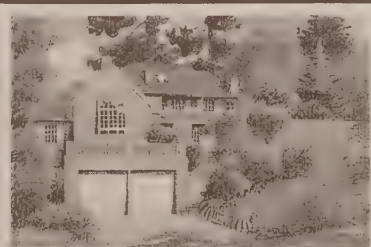
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(510) 593-8376

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and patio. Close to Piedmont Ave.
shops and Grand Ave. Quiet street.
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master bedroom suite, gourmet kitchen.
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A look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

FOR THE PUBLIC

Coldwell Banker Toys

The holidays would be less than memorable for many area children, if not for the generosity of a group of real estate professionals. In its 16th year, the Northern California offices of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage teamed up with the United States Marine Corps Reserve, to make sure Toys for Tots gifts are distributed on time. This year CB has set up collection centers at their offices. Anyone can drop off a new, unwrapped toy and it will be distributed to a needy child. Area residents who wish to participate are encouraged to contact their local Coldwell Banker office [Web site's New Features](#)

Prudential California Realty offers new, easy "click here" features on its website. Consumers will find information on being pre-approved for a home loan, to obtaining relocation help and selling tips on this site. Check it out on the company Web site: [www.pruweb.com](#).

Real Estate Careers

Have you ever wondered about a career in real estate? Want to know what it takes? What type of schooling is involved? How do I prepare for the exam? The answers to your questions are available through the Noble Fields School of Real Estate. For more information call the Oakland office at 510-451-7977 or the main office, in San Francisco at 415-956-6169.

Homebuyer Workshop

Loan Consultant, **George Johnson** of Ameristar Financial, offers a free first-time buyer informational workshop. The workshop is from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 23. The GAR Auditorium in Oakland is the location. Featured topics are zero percent down payment, FHA and conventional loans. Johnson will offer information on affordable

properties. You must RSVP. Call Johnson's reservation hotline at 5410-287-5552 or visit his Web site at [gbjohnson.com](#).

JOHNSON RETIRES

Johnene Ellis, Alameda County Manager of First American Title Company announced the retirement of **Mary Johnson**. Johnson, a Senior Escrow Officer has dedicated 30 years to the real estate industry. She is well known in the Montclair-Piedmont area. Her clients praise her for her charming personality and always being accessible. "I want to thank the real estate community," said Johnson, "for all the years of support and loyalty." Johnson won't be idle in her retirement. She is an artist and will devote herself full-time to her craft. To extend congratulations, call Johnson at 510-339-1230.

RICHARDSON FOR PRESIDENT

The Oakland Association of Realtors celebrates their 99th Annual Inaugural Luncheon on Dec. 6. The event is held at the Sequoyah Country Club in Oakland. Outgoing President **Evelyn Walker** of Coldwell Banker will pass the gavel to incoming President **Georgia Richardson** of Richardson Real Estate Services. To make a reservation call 510-836-3000.

LEARN AND EARN

Increase your business and gain that professional edge. Veteran business coach and trainer **Kitty Cole** offers four workshops for Realtors. In the "Listing Presentation" class, Cole teaches how to create a personal listing presentation and marketing plan. This program is viable for agents of all experience levels. Get the confidence you need to get the listing. This class is scheduled from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., Dec. 19, in Berkeley. At the "The Business Portfolio" class, she teaches how to create a profes-

sional marketing tool. Learn how to use it with buyers, sellers, at Open Houses and as part of your Web site. The next class is from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Dec. 18, in Pleasanton. To register for a class contact Cole at 925-254-1900 or send e-mail to [Kittybiz@aol.com](#).

MINORITY HOMEOWNERSHIP FLEDGE

The National Association of Realtors announced its pledge to the President's challenge to increase the number of minority homeowners by 5.5 million before the end of the decade. NAR kicked off its commitment by participating in the White House Conference on Increasing Minority Homeownership, where President Bush unveiled his "Blueprint for the American Dream". The blueprint outlined the ways the housing industry will partner with the administration to achieve this goal. Information about NAR is available at [www.realtor.org](#).

NEW FORM FOR REALTORS

The California Association of Realtors released an updated version of its residential purchase agreement (RPA-Ca). The new form is the product of months of hard work from Realtors statewide. Meetings are scheduled for live training. CAR attorneys will visit local Associations and brokerage firms. To learn more or request a presentation visit [www.car.org](#).

MLS FOR ALL

In a historic move, three East Bay Multiple Listing Services have jointly selected a new Multiple Listing Service (MLS) technology product. It will enable agents to access all area property listings from a single database. This offers a tremendous advantage to buyers and sellers. For example, property listings in the Tri-Cities area will be easily accessed by Realtors in Oakland and vice-versa. A buyer's agent will



BOBBIE REID
Credit Worthy

be able to search for homes throughout the entire Bay area. A six-week training program takes place at the start of 2003. Check with your local association of Realtors for more information.

45 HOURS

Renew your real estate license. Attend and earn all 45 DRE credit hours at once. The seminar includes Agency, Ethics, Trust Funds and Fair Housing. The instructor will be "The Real Estate Guys" talk show host, **Charlie Krackeler**. Seminars are held on weekday mornings, in a variety of Bay area locations. For more information about attending to renew your license call 1-800-54-RENEW.

WHO'S ON FIRST

Jacqueline Carlisle has been appointed to the Real Estate Advisory Commission (REAC). She is an appraiser and real estate broker. Carlisle serves as the executive director of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers-Investment Division. She is Broker/Owner of Network Associate Investors, a full service real estate firm in Oakland. The members of the REAC assist the Real Estate Commissioner in carrying out the responsibilities of the DRE and act as liaisons between the DRE, the industry and the public.

WHAT'S UP DOC?

Someone new at your company? Something special your company is doing? Changing locations? Putting on a seminar? Let me know. I'd love to let the world know. Information deadline is two weeks before the event. Send an email to [bobbierid@mindspring.com](#). Fax your info to me at 510-441-7191. Call me at 510-441-7190.

Are you feeling lucky?

BY BOBBIE REID
CORRESPONDENT

First-time homebuyers may find a bit of good luck with a winning combination. Alameda County, Alman Homes LLC and Realtor Betty Moore are teaming up to help first time homebuyers realize the American dream of homeownership.

Nine new homes are to be built in San Leandro. Three of the homes will be placed on the open market.

The remaining six will be sold through a lottery. These homes are designated for first time homebuyers (buyers who haven't owned a home in the past three years) and are limited to a certain income of 110 percent of the median income for Alameda County and family size.

The open market homes can be purchased by anyone that qualifies. These homes feature three bedrooms, two and one-half baths, family rooms and two-car garages. The price is \$469,900.

The lottery homes are two-story with three bedrooms, two and one-half baths, two-car

garages and many amenities. Prices range from \$289,500 to \$419,500.

Alman Homes LLC, headquartered in Emeryville, has been building homes for over thirty years. Alman specializes in providing low income and first time buyers. Alameda County is assisting with the down payment for the six lottery homes.

Betty Moore is the owner of Realty World Museum Realty. She has been in the industry for twenty years and specializes in Bay residential and commercial properties. Alman is an officer in the Alameda Association of Realtors and Oakland's Association of Real Property Brokers.

"I am dedicated to first-time buyers find affordable homes," said Moore. "We need more business organizations such as Alman Homes and Alameda County to help low income people. Moore is available to potential purchasers who qualify. To learn more call 510-567-0257

Artisans

FROM PAGE B3

All work is handcrafted, and many pieces are one-of-a-kind. This self-guided tour presents a unique opportunity to meet the artists, and to see working craft studios. The Berkeley Artisans Holiday Open Studios Map is

available free by mail. Self-addressed stamped envelope to: Berkeley Artisans Map, Eighth St. #24 A, Berkeley 94710. Pick up a map at the same address during the tour. The map is also available on the website [www.berkeleyartisans.com](#). Web site has links to tour. For other map distribution call 510-845-2612

Recent Sales, Pendings & Listings

Key Route, Albany	Behrens, El Cerrito
14 Bridge Road, Berkeley	Lexington Drive, Kensington
935 Grizzly Peak, Berkeley	5550 Redwood Road, Oakland
Hillgass, Berkeley	Merriewood, Oakland
Devon Way, Berkeley	Tunnel Road, Oakland
Cherrywood, San Leandro	

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Home for the Holidays JUST SOLD

1857 San Pedro Ave. Berkeley
Thousand Oaks jewel just 2 blocks from Solano Avenue. 2BR/1BA. I represented the Seller.
Call for details on this transaction or for current market update on your home. I am happy to assist you with any of your real estate needs.

Joanna Gould
(510) 338-1346
(510) 527-8279
[jgould@pacunion.com](#)

2 New Listings

909 Everett St., El Cerrito
Pride of Ownership - This sharp 2 bedroom home shows the utmost in care over the years. Conveniently located to community center, Plaza & BART. \$359,900.

1318 Ordway St., Berkeley
Charming Berkeley Bungalow. Beautiful Berkeley Craftsman style Bungalow. Westbrae area! 2 bd., 1 ba has LR w/fireplace & FDR. Kit. features new made maple cabinets and new hwd flrs. New furnace, upgraded electrical. Large backyard. 6 blocks from BART. \$550,000.

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New Listing High in the Hills OPEN SUNDAY, NOV. 24, 2-4:30PM



167 Samaria Lane, Oakland

All you want for Christmas in one pretty package. A spacious 2BR/2.5BA bay view townhome on a quiet cul-de-sac that comes complete with hardwood floors, fireplace, big private decks, updated kitchen & bath, 2-car garage. A gift for a lifetime! Must see!



\$419,000
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Senior Sales Consultant
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Open Sunday, November 24, 2-4 PM

Kensington, 1616 Oakview Avenue, \$549,000



Rare Offering - Exquisite Tudor
2 Bedrooms - Study - Updated

For further information call:

Heidi & Jerry Long
510/835-6218

See photos at: [www.heidiandjerry.com](#)



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REALTORS

Karen Kellenberger
510-522-4662



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3149 Minna Oakland
Open Sunday Nov.24
2:00-4:00
Come take a look \$229,000

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Happy Thanksgiving

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KAREN SENZIG
Mortgage Madness

See SENZIG, Page B6

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DAVID & CARLA HIGGINS
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There's a buyer for every house

Some houses stay on the market for a long time—even years—without selling. Why? It could be because the house is just too unusual for most buyers.

Maybe it's in an unfortunate location, too close to a major highway, or under a jet flight pattern; or it has some other problem that cannot be corrected.

Some houses have been modified in such a way that they no longer meet the needs of most buyers. For example, a house may have been divided into two separate apartments to accommodate another family member.

No matter why a house is difficult to sell, rest assured... it can still be sold!

The old real estate adage that "there's a buyer for every house" is right—also if the price is also right!

A lower price can turn a noisy location into something exciting and interesting. It can make an unwieldy floor plan seem quaint and unusual.

No matter why a house is difficult to sell, rest assured... it can still be sold!

Even a house that needs extensive renovation can find a buyer who is seeking fix-up houses to buy and repair over time.

It is still important for sellers of these houses to make their property look as good as possible with "elbow grease" and low-cost cosmetic improvements.

Even if the house requires a low price to sell, it should still bring the seller the best price the market will pay.

Dave and Carla Higgins can be reached at 800-525-3704 or by e-mail at homes@daveandcarla.com

This week's Open Home Guide starts on page B12.

New Listing
Open
Sunday,
Nov. 24th, 2-4
Charming
Condo in
Elmwood



2922 B Hillegass Ave. • \$269,000
One bedroom, one bath condo. Walk to restaurants, shopping and theater. Close to transportation.



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THORNWALL
Properties

SP Security Pacific
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510-222-8870
<http://www.spre.com>

EL CERRITO

CENTRAL LOCATION/GREAT PRICE \$339,000
2 BR 1 BA 1 car attached garage w/interior access, remodeled kitchen, new int. & ext. paint, landscaped yard, newer roof. #02033267. Len Navarro 510-662-8476

GREAT BAY VIEWS! \$520,000
4+ BR 2.5 BA Approx. 1755 sq. ft., 2 car attached garage w/int. access, hardwood floors, fireplace, backyard w/patio, large living room. #02025981. Ed Messner 510-662-8494

BERKELEY

REDWOOD BUNGALOW \$349,000
1601 10th St. (Open Sun. 1-4). This 1918 bungalow has been totally renovated and in move-in condition. New kitchen, refinished hardwood floors, new plumbing, new int. & ext. paint, 2 spacious bedrooms, w/a sunroom overlooking a large fenced yard. Just a few blocks from 4th St. shopping. Convenient to transportation & UC Berkeley campus. Jamie Lake 510-662-8487

SAN PABLO VIEW

WANT PRIVACY? PEACE OF MIND? \$324,988
6011 Rose Arbor Ave. (Open Sun. 1-4). 3 BR 1 BA Cute charmer down a quiet lane has it all. Views of San Pablo Bay, shiny oak floors, new paint, and room to expand. #02037447
www.cynthiaburke.com 510-662-8528

Visit our website - <http://www.spre.com>

Senzig

FROM PAGE B5

So the lender would offer the sub prime borrower a starting rate of 8.625 percent. The second year rate would be reduced to 8.25 percent; the third year rate at 7.875; the fourth year interest rate at 7.50

percent and the fifth through 13th years at 7.125.

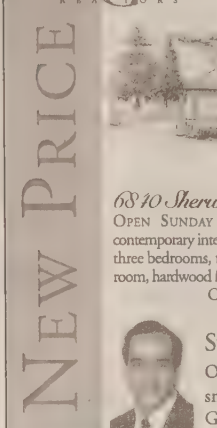
To put this into real dollars and sense, our borrower who has a \$300,700 loan amount would have a first year's monthly payment of \$2338.81. Each eligibility period that the borrower pays on time, those payments would be then reduced by almost \$80 per month. So by the

fifth year the payments would be \$2025.87, a \$312.94 per month savings over the original starting rate.

What is also attractive about this rate reduction program is that the loan amounts are not limited to the maximum conforming limits but will go as high as \$500,000. And, if the borrower can qualify, the loan may be written as a 15 year fixed-rate

loan with a slightly lower end rate. This loan is lower who knows that this is a matter of time and is banking on the costs of fits without the costs of Mortgage Madness.
Karen Senzig can be reached at 510-339-8511 or ksenzig@aol.com.

The GRUBB Co.



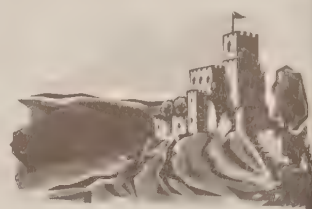
6810 Sherwood Drive, Oakland Hills
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Fabulous two-year old contemporary interpretation of traditional architecture with three bedrooms, two and one half baths, kitchen/family room, hardwood floors, granite and gorgeous garden areas.
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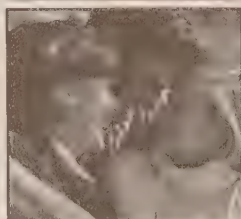
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Market Indicator*
Last wk 5.750
This wk 5.875

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COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Rates as of 11/19/02 COMMENTS
A Superior Mortgage 800-591-4445 DRE#01351704 Fees=\$1889	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.000 6.100...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125...0.000 6.310...30	15-yr Fixed 5.250...0.000 5.430...30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625...0.000 4.810...30	Open weekends. Credit problems OK Apply online www.superior-mtg.net
A-Olympic Funding-Best Rate 800-640-5588 DRE#01197415 Fees=\$1820	30-yr Fixed 5.825...2.000 5.810...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.825...2.000 5.820...30	15-yr Fixed 4.875...2.000 5.210...30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.000...2.000 5.310...30	Best Rate Promisel Open 7 days 9-5 S.J. E Bay & Peninsula Offices www.crlreloans.com 24/7
AAA Mortgage 888-821-8200 DRE#01096146 Fees=\$1999	30-yr Fixed 5.750...1.000 5.930...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.047...45	15-yr Fixed 4.875...2.000 5.325...45	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500...0.000 5.577...45	Great Home Equity (HELOC) Rates Available. Open weekends. 888-821-8200
AccessBanc Mortgage 800-661-2765 DRE#0082684 Fees=\$1430	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.000 5.937...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.031...30	Jumbo Special*	Jumbo Special*	3yr/6mo ARM 4.250%, 4.052 APR. 0/10 Fee 5 yr/6mo ARM 4.875%, 3.963 APR. 0/10 Fee Prepay & other restrictions may apply
Bay Area Olympic Funding 888-833-1000 DRE#01197415 Fees=\$1658	30-yr Fixed 6.000...0.000 6.012...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375...0.000 6.386...30	5-1 FIX PAY JMB*	25yr/6m JMB ARM 3.625...0.000 3.638...30	UP to \$8,000,000 CASH OUT 4.55% APR ARM. NO income verif. www.MegaJumbo.com All ARMs Int. Only. *Pot. neg. am
Cal-State Funding 800-883-5363 DRE#00874441 Fees=\$2010	30-yr Fixed 5.750...1.000 5.940...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...1.000 6.190...45	5-1 ARM Jumbo 5.000...1.000 5.190...45	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.250...1.000 4.440...45	Rates change daily Call for latest rates
California Mortgage Mart 800-947-4769 DRE#00406187 Fees=\$1758	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.000 5.950...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125...0.000 6.160...45	15-yr Fixed 5.250...0.000 5.380...45	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625...0.000 5.670...45	Check our website for updated rates & Loan Application. www.CaliforniaMortgageMart.com
CMG Mortgage 800-958-5339 DRE#01170028 Fees=\$1433	30-yr Fixed 5.625...1.250 5.805...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...1.000 6.122...30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.250...1.000 4.360...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750...1.250 4.885...30	Open Sat. & Sun. Quik Qualifier & stated income option available. Financing for people with less than perfect credit
Downey Savings & Loan 800-798-2148 DOC#6037471 Fees=\$1428	30-yr Fixed 5.750...1.000 5.871...60	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...1.750 6.054...60	1-mo COFI ARM*	2.950...1.000 5.405...45	Direct lender. 45 yrs experience; fixed & adjust rate mortgages. *Pot. neg. amort. Apply online at www.downeysavings.com
FiNet.com 800-641-7556 DRE#00921943 Fees=\$1717	30-yr Fixed call...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call...	-	-	Call us for your low credit and unique situations 1-800-641-7556
Intercontinental Mortgage 800-848-6002 DRE#01347162 Fees=\$1675	30-yr Fixed 6.000...0.000 6.093...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.250...0.000 6.291...30	15-yr Fixed 5.375...0.000 5.528...30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625...0.000 5.691...30	Apply online 24/7 Check website for daily rates and more great rates
Lenders Northstar Mtg Grp 888-568-9060 DRE#1345744 Fees=\$2224	30-yr Fixed call...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call...	3/1 ARM Jumbo*	15-yr Fixed call...	All loan programs available No up front fees. *Pot. Neg. Amort www.nslmloans.com
Matrix Investment Corp. 800-366-8916 DOC#4130418 Fees=\$4050	30-yr Fixed 5.250...1.990 5.490...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625...1.750 5.760...30	15-yr Fixed 4.625...1.990 5.110...30	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.860...30	Good & bad credit considered. Brokers welcome! Call us today! www.matrixinvestments.com
Mortgage Market 800-837-5526 DRE#00887562 Fees=\$1875	30-yr Fixed 6.000...0.000 6.113...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375...0.000 6.491...30	15-yr Fixed 5.500...0.000 5.686...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.500...0.000 5.610...30	Credit problems, bankruptcy, difficult loans our specialty. All gov't loans, 100% loans, credit lines, construction.
Northern Mutual Corp. 888-441-2600 DRE#01243581 Fees=\$2648	30-yr Fixed 5.740...2.000 5.981...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...2.000 5.997...30	20-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.490...2.000 5.759...30	-	WOW!! Look at our Jumbo Int. rates! We guarantee closing costs won't incr. at closing. E-mail Steve@northernmutual.com
Pacific West Financial 800-798-7334 DRE#01124581 Fees=\$1694	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.000 5.997...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125...0.000 6.172...30	15-yr Fixed 5.375...0.000 5.578...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.875...0.000 4.918...30	Se Habla Espanol! 100% purchase loans Apply at pacificwestfinancial.net
Premier Mortgage Group 888-389-6633 DOC#4130386 Fees=\$1992	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.820...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.029...30	15-yr Fixed 5.250...0.000 5.367...30	7-yr Balloon 4.875...0.000 5.010...30	Apply online at www.pmgmortgage.com
The Mortgage Center 800-670-8403 DRE#0080920 Fees=\$2102	30-yr Fixed call...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call...	15-yr Fixed call...	15-yr Fxd Jumbo call...	Open Sat. & Sun. No-down purchases Bad credit okav

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- Learn about closing costs and types of loans
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- Hotlinks to all lenders' websites
- Prequalify, preapprove or apply online

Rates based on \$150,000 loan for single family residence. Jumbo rates (loans in excess of \$300,700) based on \$350,000 loan. All rates are believed to be accurate but are not guaranteed and are subject to change without notice. Minimum downpayment requirements and other restrictions may apply. Closing costs may vary. Contact each lender for details. Points include origination and discount fees. APR = annual percentage rate and is calculated by each company - includes costs to obtain loan and private mortgage insurance. Look-rate lock period. ARM=adjustable rate mortgage. Companies pay a fee to be in this Guide. *Age 30 yr. fixed conforming with 0 points. Fees are estimated costs and may vary. These are not inclusive of all costs and do not include points, prepaid interest, title insurance or escrow items. Click on "Fees" in "Current Mortgage Rates" section. * contact each company for details. Copy: ght 2002, INFOTRAK National Data Services and Knight Publishing Co.

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Space Reservations:

MONDAY, 12 Noon

Copy Requiring Typesetting:

MONDAY, 5 pm

Copy & Artwork:

TUESDAY, 12 Noon

Open Home Guide:

WEDNESDAY, 12 Noon

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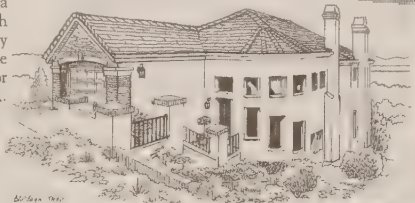
Oakland Hills

OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2-4:30PM

661 Via Rialto at Redwood Road

new home in Alta Villa
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splendid master suite
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David Ichikawa
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HOMES OPEN SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 24th, 2002



Oakland \$418,000
Live/work unit with separate, 1207
square foot artist studio with roll-
up door. Units #215 & #155.
730 29th Street Open 2-4:30



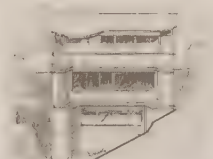
Kensington \$549,000
2/1 - Exquisite updated Tudor near
shops, restaurants and BART. See
photos at www.heidandjerry.com.
1616 Oakview Ave. Open 2-4



Berkeley \$404,000
2+1 - Fabulous Craftsman gem!
Mint condition! Huge paradise
yard/garden. Rare opportunity!
1200 Stannage Open 2-5



Berkeley \$345,000
2/2 - First Open! Large & terrific
condo with 1 parking space, close
to UC Berkeley, shops, more.
2614 Warring St. #2 Open 2-4



Oakland Hills \$749,000
4/2 - Lincoln Heights. Quality,
brand new construction. 95% fin-
ished, waiting for your selections.
2811 Steinmetz Way Open 2-4



Richmond View \$359,000
3 BD + bonus room - Sun-filled,
spacious home on a 7,000 square foot
lot. Convenient neighborhood.
6446 Arlington Blvd. Open 2-4

Berkeley \$1,150,000
3+1/2 - Awesome David Baker, loft-style home.
2997 Dwight Way Open 2-4

Claremont Hills, Oakland \$1,195,000
4/3 - Bright Contemporary, view, chef's kitchen, more.
7172 Buckingham Boulevard Open 2-4:30

Richmond N & E \$349,000
3/1 - Quintessential MacGregor. Lovely & immaculate.
3729 Roosevelt Avenue Open 2-4

Berkeley \$489,000
3/1 - Lovely Craftsman in great location, fresh paint.
1810 Curtis Street Open 2-4

Richmond \$210,000
1/1 Condo - Lots of lights. Overlooks courtyard.
1207 Melville Square #313 Open 2-4

Jack London Square, Oakland \$549,000
2/1 - Expansive 2,400 sq ft loft with 12-foot ceilings.
247 4th Street #105 Open 2-4

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MONTCLAIR \$750,000
Wired Architect designed 2 year old home. Dramatic
spaces for bedrooms, two and one-half bath.
luxury family room combination. Over 3100 square feet.
Tom Erwin



MONTCLAIR NEAR PIEDMONT \$2,750,000

Unsurpassed panoramic views of San Francisco, Golden Gate,
and Bay Bridges from this magnificent Italian villa styled home.
Elegance & artistry incorporated throughout. Family room,
library, media room, living room, and dual kitchens. 6+
bedrooms, 4 full & 2 half baths. Listed by Helen Nicholas.
Hosted by Jody Dworzak, Donald Petrey & Mahnaz Judson.



OAKLAND \$725,000

A rare opportunity to buy a Classic Julia Morgan Design.
Built in 1912. Distinct wood details. Graceful grand
entryway with many built-in features. Over 3000 square feet.
Room for addition. Backyard with waterfall. Convenient to
all transportation.
Mahnaz Judson



MONTCLAIR \$899,000

Panoramic views. 4000 square foot home sitting on top of the
world. Large living room, 3 decks - all with view. Large in-
law with separate entrance. Best buy on market for square
footage. Come see! Mel Copland



LAKE MERRITT \$295,000 & \$533,000

Two homes on the North Shore. One bedroom,
one bath condo offered at \$295,000. Two bedroom, two bath
condo offered at \$533,000. Each has high ceilings, oak
floors, massive wood-burning fireplaces. Bright &
open locations with 24 hr. doorman & valet services.
Shown by appointment only. Tom Erwin



CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$595,000

Adorable "Story Book" Traditional. Updated kitchen &
baths. Bright, open spaces to deck overlooking huge level
yard. Major structural & system upgrades. Just move in!
Steven Bissari



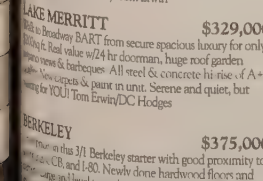
STUNNING CONTEMPORARY \$799,000

Brazilian Rosewood floors, gourmet kitchen, formal dining.
Room for addition. Backyard with waterfall. Convenient to
all transportation.
Mahnaz Judson



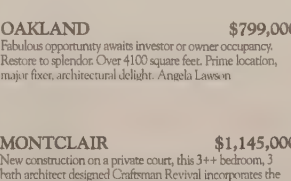
OAKLAND \$265,000

Cozy townhome with lots of natural light. Two balconies,
quiet location, freeway accessible. Two-car, attached garage.
Rare opportunity! Angela Lawson



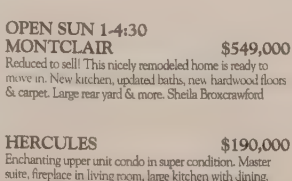
BERKELEY \$375,000

Move-in on this 3/1 Berkeley starter with good proximity to
BART, CR, and I-80. Newly done hardwood floors and
cabinets. New carpets & paint in unit. Serene and quiet, but
near YOU! Tom Erwin/DC Hodges



OAKLAND \$799,000

Fabulous opportunity awaits investor or owner occupancy.
Restore to splendor Over 4100 square feet. Prime location,
major fixer, architectural delight. Angela Lawson



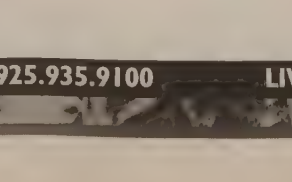
OPEN SUN 1-4:30 MONTCLAIR \$549,000

Reduced to sell! This nicely remodeled home is ready to
move in. New kitchen, updated baths, new hardwood floors
& carpet. Large rear yard & more. Sheila Bronckowford



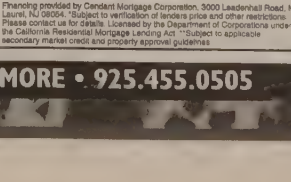
OAKLAND HILLS \$949,000

1960s traditional on a large lot with oak trees. Well
maintained and featuring eight bedrooms including large
office/den & Au Pair. 4.5 baths, beautiful hardwood floors,
huge marble fireplace, and built-ins throughout. An absolutely
beautiful home! Kay Lanway 925-935-9100



HERCULES \$190,000

Enchanting upper unit condo in super condition. Master
suite, fireplace in living room, large kitchen with jining
view of hills, detached garage. Angela Lawson



LAKE MERRITT \$329,000

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\$329,000. Real value w/24 hr doorman, huge roof garden
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quality. New carpets & paint in unit. Serene and quiet, but
near YOU! Tom Erwin/DC Hodges

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Can you avoid paying capital gains tax when you sell?

Tax laws vary from state to state

INMAN NEWS FEATURES

There are a lot of reasons to buy real estate. You can buy with a minimal cash investment. Real estate tends to appreciate in value over time. If you occupy the property, the federal government subsidizes your housing expense with tax write-offs for mortgage interest and property taxes. If that's not enough incentive, consider the tax benefits you receive when you sell.

Homeowners who have owned their homes for at least two years are entitled to a capital gains tax exemption when they sell. For married couples that file jointly, the first \$500,000 of gain is tax-free. For single individuals, the exemption is \$250,000. In either case, the property must be a primary residence that you occupied for 2 of the 5 years before selling.

The current capital gains exclusion for primary residences can be taken every two years. So conceivably you could buy a home, experience two years of appreciation, sell the property, receive tax-free gain, buy another property and repeat the sequence again and again.

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 significantly changed the federal tax laws regarding the sale of a principal residence. Under the current law, you don't need to invest in another home in order to defer capital gain liability, as was the case previously. Even if you sell your home and rent indefinitely, you're entitled to take the \$250,000 (individual) or \$500,000 (married couples) capital gain tax exemption.

Contractors and renovation specialists are making good use of the current tax law. Some builders are choosing to occupy a home they've recently built rather than sell it new. After establishing the 2-year minimum residency requirement, they sell the property and are eligible for the \$250,000 (individual) or

\$500,000 (married couples) capital gain tax exemption.

Home buyers with fix-up expertise can use this strategy to help build wealth. First, buy a fixer and move into it. Fix it up and live there for at least 2 years. Then sell, take your tax-free gain and buy another fixer.

But don't even consider this approach unless you like moving a lot and you can live comfortably in a construction zone. You're only entitled to cash in on tax-free capital gain on the sale of your primary residence. If you own income-producing property, you must pay tax on the gain when you sell unless you complete a 1031 tax-deferred exchange.

A 1031 exchange allows you to roll gain from one income-producing property into another income-producing property. You ultimately have to pay tax on the gain, but a 1031 exchange permits you to defer capital gain tax payment in the future.

HOME SELLER TIP: Some homeowners are incorporating current tax law into their retirement planning. Recently, an Oakland couple sold an apartment building using a 1031 Exchange. With the proceeds, they purchased, or traded into, a home they'll ultimately occupy when they retire.

Until they retire, the property will be rented. So, they traded one rental property for another and deferred paying tax on the gain.

At retirement, they will sell their current residence and collect \$500,000 of tax-free gain. Then

they'll move into the rental property they acquired in exchange for the apartment building they sold years before.

For tax purposes, they'll convert the rental property to their primary residence. That way they'll avoid

paying tax on the gain of the investment properties.

THE CLOSING: Federal tax laws are in a continuous state of flux, so be sure to consult a knowledgeable tax advisor before you buy or sell, particularly if income

property is involved. State tax laws vary, so consult with an expert in your area.

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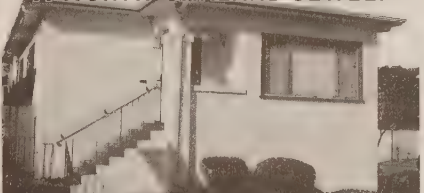
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Oakland

\$42,000 Hillmont Dr. Small lot with water view! Approx. 4400 sq. ft. Donnaluci 510-814-4826

\$225,000 930 Pine St. Single level 1 bedroom, 1 bath, off street parking. Kathy 510-814-4708

\$229,000 151 Lakeside Dr. 108, View of Lake Merritt, freshly painted, walking distance to BART and BART. Eunice 510-814-4892

\$263,000 6415 Elm St. 2bd, 2ba Cottage, Updated kitchen & bath. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$339,000 4257 Suter. Charming 2+bd, 1 ba craftsman w/original built-ins. New electrical, new landscaping w/sprinkler system. Detached office. Lorraine 510-814-4716

\$349,000 1366 34th St. OPEN Sat. 12-8 Live-work in loft-style converted Victorian. New foundation. Can be used residential or commercial. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$469,000 85 Edgewood. 3bd, 2.5ba, 2 car garage. Easy access to BART, schools, shopping. Kathy 510-814-4840

\$469,000 525 Mandana Blvd. Panoramic penthouse overlooking Lake Merritt & Oakland Hills. 2bd, 2ba, high ceiling, four decks. Deirdre 510-814-4875

\$650,000 Land! Approx. 24,400 sq. ft. Approved project to build 18 condos! Kathy 510-814-4706

Orinda

\$99,000 El Toyonal, Orinda. Back on Market! Lot with views to east hills; survey complete, corners marked; geotech-slope report completed; motivated seller. Russ Grant 814-7413

Orinda

\$997,900 1002 Bella Vista. Residential Income! Large craftsman home w/2 flats, and additional cottage. Endless potential located on corner view parcel. Margaret 510-814-4829

San Leandro

\$249,000 1400 Carpenter St. Two bedroom, 2 bath condo convenient to BART, bus, and shopping. Lovely garden in courtyard with pool, spa, & clubhouse. Elevators, 1 garage space. Terry 510-814-4840

\$280,000 14171 Seagate Dr. 2bd, 1ba, spacious dining area/vaulted ceilings, & 1 m with fireplace. 3 bedrooms 510-814-4825

\$299,000 14402 Outrigger Dr. Bright & airy upstairs unit w/ vaulted ceilings! 2bd, 2ba, 1 car garage, and ceiling fans included. Kathy 510-814-4840

\$330,000 31 E. 14th St. Duplex! Two bedroom, 1 bath units in good shape. Recently painted, windows replaced a few years ago. In-unit laundry, and updated baths. George 510-814-4891

\$359,000 1908 Alameda. 3bd, 1ba, family room, 2 car garage, parking 2 car garage. Kathy 510-814-4825

\$360,000 304 Little St. Single level 3bd home in quiet neighborhood, close to BART and downtown. Formal dining room, hardwood floors, and extended 2 car garage. Marilyn 510-814-4709

Hayward

\$225,000 26098 Kay Ave. #104, Well maintained 2bd unit with fireplace & in-unit laundry. EZ access to 880. Probate sale. Janice 510-814-4846

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BERKELEY
 916 Jackson St - \$420,000
 555 Pierce 1035 - \$305,000
 545 Pierce 3102 - \$230,000
 555 Pierce 640E - \$305,000

BERKELEY

2221 6th St - \$615,000
 2411 Acton St - \$370,000
 2901 Buena Vista - \$1,200,000
 2029 Channing E3 - \$133,500
 667 Colusa Av - \$449,000
 1115 Cowper St - \$511,000
 2615 Etna St - \$880,000
 1080 Euclid Av - \$655,000
 1534 Fairview St - \$535,000
 139 Forest Ln - \$1,201,000
 486 Grizzly Peak Bl - \$715,000
 50 Latham Ln - \$511,000
 2227 Oregon St - \$507,000

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917 Elm St - \$380,000
 921 Elm St - \$408,000
 2305 Gloria St - \$505,000
 840 Kearney St - \$395,000
 1601 Navellier St - \$570,000
 203 Pomona Av - \$425,000
 5336 Rosalind Av - \$450,000
 26 Wildwood Pl - \$340,000
 2611 Yuba Av - \$800,000

EMERYVILLE

2 Admiral Dr #283 - \$360,000
 5929 Vallejo St - \$357,000

KENSINGTON

411 Coventry Rd - \$555,000

EL SOBRANTE

4129 Barranca Av - \$210,000

See SALES, Page B12

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107 ESTATES DRIVE \$1,195,000
 Very sunny & spacious traditional w/new kitchen opening to solarium & deck. 4BR/3BA, huge family room & potential wine cellar. Nancy Lehrkind

2066 OAKLAND AVENUE \$1,195,000
 This sophisticated & elegant home has it all! Hardwood floors, recessed lighting, gourmet kitchen & library. Great indoor/outdoor living. Anian Pettit Tunney

214 MORAGA AVENUE \$619,000
 Charming 2BR/1BA traditional. Well designed kitchen, hardwood floors, fireplace, private deck and garden Convenient location. Carin Caroe

241 SUNNYSIDE AVENUE \$599,000
 Piedmont traditional with old world charm. Level-in two bedroom with original 1920's details. Spacious and in excellent condition! Angela Wei Grubb

BERKELEY - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

1451 OLYMPUS AVENUE \$998,000
 Stately Mediterranean w/expansive views of the Bay & bridges! 4BR/3BA includes an in-law set-up. Newer kitchen. Adjacent lot is also for sale. Ruth Frassetto

50 ALVARADO AVENUE \$835,000
 This wonderful traditional offers 4BR/3BA, study and formal dining room. A rare opportunity for a cosmetic fixer in a most prestigious neighborhood. Bebe McRae

2908 PINE AVENUE \$789,000
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2817 PRINCE STREET \$789,000
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1 ROCK LANE \$750,000
 A charming well located home with wonderful character! Vaulted ceilings, wood paneled family room, garden and peak of the Bay views. Nancy Lehrkind

1001 SIERRA STREET \$699,000
 This lovely 3BR/2BA, one level Brown Shingle home has wonderful architectural details & is located the desirable Thousand Oaks neighborhood. Wendy Sprague

OAKLAND & SAN LEANDRO - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

6926 NORFOLK ROAD \$1,395,000
 Exquisite newly constructed Mediterranean. Soaring ceilings, lush gardens, tiled patios, spacious floor plan, luxurious master suite. 4+BR/4.5BA. Bertina Balestrieri

13337 CAMPUS DRIVE \$1,385,000
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7044 NORFOLK ROAD \$1,275,000
 Native redwoods, winding stairs & metal French doors are the beguiling introduction to this bold contemporary in the Claremont Hills. Carolyn Jones

6960 NORFOLK ROAD \$1,150,000
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6161 HARBOR DRIVE \$1,149,000
 Elegant, sunny and refreshing 4BR/3+BA contemporary with Bay view, family room off kitchen, wine cellar and huge garage. Debra J. Dryden

6840 SHERWICK DRIVE \$849,000
 Fabulous 2-yr old contemporary interpretation of traditional architecture. 3BR/2.5BA, kitchen/family room, hardwood floors & lovely gardens. Steve Michaelides

856 SUNNYHILLS ROAD \$699,000
 This attractive traditional home features a beautiful kitchen, lovely deck & garden, enclosed sunporch upstairs & a charming den. Michelle Winchester

1201 SAN RAFAEL STREET \$525,000
 SAN LEANDRO. Gracious Estudillo Estates traditional. Spacious & sunny 2BR+ home office, rumpus, updated kitchen, e-car garage & gardens. Donna DeBardi

44 CORTEZ COURT \$499,000
 Nepenthe in Montclair "The Roberson House". Built entirely of clear-heart redwood & sited to capture a Bay view framed by oak trees on 1/3 acre. Tricia Swift

200 CALDECOTT LANE #309 \$379,000
 Bright & airy 3rd floor "Piedmont" model at The Parkwoods. 2BR/2BA. Ready for you to move in! Pool, gym, sauna, security gate, EZ commute. Tricia Swift

240 CALDECOTT LANE #314 \$285,000
 Bright 1BR/1BA top floor "Golden Gate" model w/ canyon view. Tile counters, in-unit laundry. Sheltered patio. Pool, sauna, gym, security. Tricia Swift

BY APPOINTMENT

MONTCLAIR VIEW HOME \$1,175,000
 OAKLAND. New artistic contemporary. Sleek lines & bold colors accent this sophisticated home that reverberates w/ light. 4BR/3.5BA & Bay views. John Karnay

INVESTMENT PROPERTY \$995,000
 OAKLAND. Upgraded 5-unit building in desirable Piedmont Ave. location includes separate rear cottage & parking lot. Penthouse w/Bay views. Karen Starr

ROMANTIC RETREAT \$995,000
 BERKELEY. This romantic retreat was built for this family in 1928! 3BR/3.5BA, formal dining room, den & spacious family room. Beautiful! Bebe McRae

PRIVATE & PEACEFUL \$899,000
 OAKLAND. Close to biking & hiking trails. Pristine condition 3BR/2.5BA w/formal living room & family room/kitchen w/slate fireplace. A classic! Nancy Lehrkind

STORYBOOK TUDOR \$829,000
 OAKLAND. Wonderful storybook 5BR/3BA Tudor on oversized lot with random plank hardwood floors and loaded with original charm. Mavis Delacroix

SWEEPING SF VIEWS \$799,000
 OAKLAND. This exceptional property features a fabulous floor plan, beautiful SF Bay views, elegant master suite, kitchen/family room & office. Sherry Benninger

ARCHITECT DESIGNED \$699,500
 BERKELEY. Exciting open design architecture w/a focus on indoor-outdoor living! Filtered Bay views. Lush gardens. Family room w/2nd fireplace. 4BR/2.5 BA. Chris Cohn

GRACIOUS TRADITIONAL \$695,000
 BERKELEY. This beautiful 3BR/1+BA home has Bay views, wonderful gardens & is located near UC, shopping, dining & transportation. The Ratcliffes

MONTCLAIR \$575,000
 OAKLAND. Piedmont side of Montclair, near the village. 3BR/3BA, rumpus & separate office. Light filled rooms with scenic canyon views. Elizabeth Dickson

SWEEPING SF VIEW \$549,000
 OAKLAND. Spacious Crestmont home w/sweeping San Francisco view, level yard & great floor plan 4BR/3BA. Two-car garage. Near parks & hiking. Sherry Benninger

SAN LEANDRO BUNGALOW \$360,000
 SAN LEANDRO. Charming, sunny & updated bungalow w/hardwood floors, fireplace, pretty gardens & upgrades. Close to shops, schools and BART. Donna DeBardi

LOTS & LAND - OAKLAND & BERKELEY \$749,000
 Large lot in Oakland/Berkeley hills w/views of SF & GG bridge. Plans & permit avail. Angela Wei Grubb

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$550,000
 Build your own home in a most desirable neighborhood. Downslope lot w/Bay view & plans. Debra J. Dryden

VACANT LAND \$330,000
 Vacant land with fabulous view & level building site. Approved plans. Katherine Cooper

BERKELEY HILLS \$270,000
 One of few remaining lots in Berkeley hills. Adjacent to 1451 Olympus Drive. Angela Wei Grubb

The GRUBB Co.
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 70 CLAREMONT AVE.
 BERKELEY, 94705
 652.2133
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 OAKLAND, 94611
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Reid

FROM PAGE B3

OAKLAND

2236 109th Ave - \$290,000
 2240 109th Ave - \$283,000
 2627 13th St - \$420,000
 723 27th St - \$329,500
 1110 28th St - \$255,000
 1537 33rd Ave - \$243,500
 2216 34th Ave - \$235,000
 2353 35th Ave - \$270,000
 2197 41st Ave - \$340,000
 418 42nd St - \$375,000
 886 45th St - \$550,000
 1659 46th Ave - \$345,000
 398 51st St - \$325,000
 818 53rd Ave - \$350,000
 825 53rd Ave - \$375,000
 823 61st St - \$408,000
 1235 72nd Ave - \$175,000
 1480 76th Ave - \$204,000

1207 78th Ave - \$225,000
 1622 82nd Ave - \$449,000
 1614 8th Ave - \$368,000
 10012 A St - \$285,000
 6734 Aiken Dr - \$590,000
 6015 Auburn Ave - \$680,000
 5447 Bancroft Ave - \$260,000
 1030 Bayview Ave - \$600,000
 1721 Bridge Ave - \$272,000
 12680 Brookpark - \$612,000
 6165 Brookside Ave - \$410,000
 220 Caldecott 111 - \$410,000
 240 Caldecott 317 - \$425,000
 555 Capistrano Dr - \$240,000
 11015 Cary Ave - \$240,000
 9608 Castlewood - \$450,000
 442 Catron Dr - \$234,000
 614 Clara St - \$240,000
 1027 Clarendon Cr. - \$625,000
 3118 Davis St - \$269,000
 400 Douglas Ave - \$190,000
 4026 East 15th St - \$83,000
 200 Douglas Ave - \$175,000
 1348 East 36th St - \$215,000

3021 Filbert St - \$352,000
 10315 Foothill Bl - \$249,000
 2723 Frazier Ave - \$240,000
 11300 Golf Links - \$789,000
 3421 Haven St - \$205,000
 1289 Holman Rd - \$600,000
 3864 Howe St - \$615,000
 3300 Jordan Rd - \$462,000
 2316 Lakeshore 9 - \$341,000
 200 Lakeside 205 - \$430,000
 3212 Laurel Ave - \$287,000
 3915 Loma Vista Ave - \$410,000
 796 MacArthur Bl - \$515,000
 800 MacArthur Bl - \$569,000
 6314 Majestic Ave - \$289,000
 4515 Malcolm Ave - \$460,000
 1550 Market St - \$419,000
 4508 Montgomery 2 - \$425,000
 4505 Montgomery 7 - \$550,000
 2935 Myrtle St - \$140,000
 567 Oakland 112 - \$287,000
 651 Oakland Ave - \$200,000
 2915 Octavia St - \$260,000
 6500 Outlook Ave - \$430,000

6620 Outlook Ave - \$207,500
 6151 Overdale Ave - \$270,000
 4330 Pampas Ave - \$215,000
 10938 Reposo Dr - \$230,000
 6601 Saroni Dr - \$623,000
 4835 Shafter Ave - \$551,000
 8285 Skyline Bl - \$680,000
 8607 Skyline Bl - \$560,000
 4420 Steele St - \$400,000
 3750 Suter St - \$255,000
 9241 Thermal St - \$307,000
 552 Valle Vista Ave - \$615,000
 500 Vernon #209 - \$269,000
 128 Vicente Rd - \$1,200,000
 2668 Wakefield Ave - \$299,000
 10325 Walnut St - \$247,000
 9801 Walnut St - \$220,000
 5 W. Emb'ero 327 - \$200,000
 7082 Westmorland - \$999,000

PIEDMONT

101 Cromer Ave - \$1,251,000
 4 Fairview Ave - \$630,000

62 Inverleith Tr - \$3,000,000
 4407 Moraga Ave - \$646,000
 1023 Oakland Ave - \$690,000

RICHMOND

141 11th St - \$160,000
 664 2nd St - \$194,000
 801 32nd St - \$355,500
 2365 Andrade Ave - \$241,000
 1161 Barrett Ave - \$250,000
 2611 Beach Head - \$322,000
 1519 Chanslor Ave - \$141,000
 4043 Coleman Cr - \$505,000
 240 Duboce Ave - \$340,000
 3478 Fleetwood Dr - \$401,000
 1427 Gaynor Ave - \$250,000
 2315 Highgate Dr - \$311,500
 15010 Huntingdon - \$290,000
 2879 Lincoln Ave - \$310,000
 506 Marina Wy - \$255,000
 1201 Melville 201 - \$281,000
 3763 N. Stoneleng - \$242,000
 1518 Palm Ave - \$375,000

SAN LEANDRO

1709 143rd Ave - \$100,000
 2060 167th Ave - \$100,000
 345 Accolade Dr - \$100,000
 378 Alvarado Dr - \$100,000
 3801 Anza Wy - \$100,000
 15010 Beatty St - \$100,000
 1334 Belding St - \$100,000
 890 Bridge Rd - \$100,000
 15583 Budge St - \$100,000

See SALES p.



Martino Associates &
Mortgage Co.

Alameda
\$445,000
1040 Central Avenue
3+ Bed, 2 1/2 Bath
In-Law Potential
Dining, Eat-In Kitchen
Fireplace, Garage, Yard
Open Saturday, Nov. 23
2:00-4:00 PM



Carol Martino
Realty World
Martino Associates
510-523-9300
510-919-9233

marvin gardens
real estate

NORTH BERKELEY. 842 The Alameda \$570,000
Walk to Solano Avenue from this sun-filled 1920's traditional. Hardwood floors, fireplace, formal dining room, 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, sunny garden room and a spacious garden with fruit trees.
Open Sunday 2-4
Kathie Berg 527-2700 x34

MONTCLAIR. 1151 Mountain Blvd. \$475,000
Very sweet cottage nestled in Japanese Maples. Near vibrant Montclair Village shops and cafe. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath on main level plus 2 rooms and 2nd bath below. Fireplace, hardwood floors, one-car garage.
Open Sunday 1-5
Terry Pedersen 527-2700 x36

RICHMOND ANNEX. 1368 Carlson Blvd. \$259,000
1940's home with many lovely original details and "great bones." Formal dining room with built-in cabinets, fireplace in living room, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, breakfast nook, laundry room. Hardwood floors under carpet.
Open Sunday 2-4
Linda Davidson Mayeda (510) 559-2907

EL CERRITO. 6970 Fairview Dr. \$575,000
Lovely cared for 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath home. Living room with fireplace overlooks the San Francisco Bay. Spacious family room and workshop, recently remodeled kitchen, large deck, beautiful 2.4 acre lot.
Open Sunday 2-5
Nic Tang (510) 559-2918

RICHMOND VIEW. 4444 Rockwood Rd. \$575,000
Duplex! House phase beautiful, new kitchen with unfinished 2nd bedrooms, rec room, 2nd house. Quiet area near Bay view!
Open Sunday 2-5
Dee Plunkett

7502 Fairmount Ave.
El Cerrito • (510) 527-9111

289 Arlington Ave.
Kensington • (510) 524-0800

1577 Solano Ave.
Berkeley • (510) 527-2700

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Weekend OPEN HOMES

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www.contracostimes.com

ALAMEDA

Address & Realty Size Hours Price
 3259 Ferndale Blvd 4 +/- 2.5 2-4 \$930,000
 Ferndale, Open Sunday
 The Homes-Link Team 510-748-5300

2149 1/2 Clinton Ave 2 units 2-4 \$775,000
 Open Sat & Sun, Main Island
 Kane & Associates 510-522-4662; Rosemary McElally 510-769-1845

39 Lawrence Rd 480/2.5BA Sat 1-4:30 Sun 2-4 \$738,000
 Harbor Bay Realty Dan Vissal 510-914-4824

101 Sweet Rd 480/3BA 2-4 \$738,000
 Open Saturday & Sunday
 Harbor Bay Realty Eunice Edwards 510-814-4882; Mark Playsted 510-814-4874

1315 Santa Clara 480/3BA 2-4 \$710,000
 Open Sunday, www.openhomesalameda.com
 Gallagher & Lindsay Patricia Donfilia 510-748-1139

1421 Union St 3 +/- 2.5 2-4 \$579,000
 Open Saturday & Sunday
 Harbor Bay Realty Mark Playsted 510-814-4874; Barbara Bolton 510-814-4714

7 Ratto Rd 380/2.5BA 2-4 \$678,000
 Open Saturday & Sunday
 Harbor Bay Realty Ramon Dominguez 510-814-4887; Nancy Gordon 510-814-4815

2000 Yosemite Ave 380/1.5BA 2-4 \$638,900
 Harbor Bay Realty Steve Brandt 510-814-4889; Nancy Brandt 510-814-4823

3227 Bayo Vista Ave 380/2BA 2-4 \$629,000
 Harbor Bay Realty Karin Ingeman 510-814-4978

832 Mount St 380/2BA 2-4 \$628,000
 Open Sunday, www.openhomesalameda.com
 Gallagher & Lindsay Alice Darvin 510-748-1135

301 Holly Oak Ln 480/3.5BA 2-4 \$619,000
 Open Saturday & Sunday
 Harbor Bay Realty Judy Jacobson 510-814-4711; Connie Hanna 510-814-4814

1901 Hibbard St 380/2.5BA 2-4 \$598,000
 Open Sunday
 Harbor Bay Realty Tom Young 510-814-4841

1354 Hansen Ave 380 2-4 \$586,000
 Open Sunday
 Bayridge Real Estate Dianna Wyman 510-822-5827

3330 Tideway Dr 380/2.5BA 2-4 \$570,000
 Open Sunday, www.openhomesalameda.com
 Gallagher & Lindsay Ruth Meserole 510-748-1101

3304 Encinal Ave 380 2-4 \$550,000
 Open Sunday, Main Island
 Kane & Associates David Gundersen 510-814-2024

1709 Paru St 380/1 - BA 1-4 \$539,000
 Open Sunday
 Prudential CA Realty Kay Byrd 510-899-4933

2120 Eagle Ave 480 2-4 \$528,000
 Open Sat & Sun, 2 units Main Island
 Kane & Associates Sally Han 510-510-5009; Hanna Fry 510-821-5475

137 Parfall Ln 280/2BA 2-4 \$525,000
 Open Saturday & Sunday
 Harbor Bay Realty Dawn Gutierrez 510-814-4854; Janice Payne 510-814-4846

1668 Central Ave 380/1BA 2-4 \$498,950
 Open Sunday, www.openhomesalameda.com
 Gallagher & Lindsay John Seibach 510-748-1178

ALAMEDA

Address & Realty Size Hours Price
 1421 Union St 280/2BA 2-4 \$489,900
 Open Saturday
 Harbor Bay Realty Margaret Lomba 510-814-4829

134 Norwich Rd 280 2-4 \$488,500
 Open Sunday, Harbor Bay
 Kane & Associates Lana Sazo 510-748-0780

1216 Rosewood Way 380 2-4 \$479,000
 Open Sunday, Main Island
 Kane & Associates Kristyna Nowak 510-483-1676

1541 Santa Clara Ave. 2 - 80/2BA 2-4 \$479,000
 Open Sunday
 Harbor Bay Realty Bill Douglas 510-814-4839

2261 Powell St 2 - 80/2BA 2-4 \$475,000
 Open Sunday
 Alameda Realty Bette Barr (510) 303-2525

602 Centre Court 280 2-4 \$449,000
 Open Sunday, Harbor Bay
 Kane & Associates Alan Lertzman 510-337-9413

1040 Central Ave 3 +/- 2.5 2-4 \$445,000
 Open Saturday
 Realty World Martino Associates Carol Martino 510-919-9233

301 Broadway #301 280 2-4 \$425,000
 Open Sunday, Main Island
 Kane & Associates Wendy Sando 510-531-2274

405 Baywood Rd 280/2.5BA 2-4 \$425,000
 Open Sunday
 Harbor Bay Realty Jeffery Goodman 510-814-4885

2517 Crist St 2 - 80/2BA 2-4 \$425,000
 Open Sunday
 Harbor Bay Realty Shirley McWilliam 510-814-4825

1180 Windward Ln 480 2-4 \$400,000
 Open Sunday, Harbor Bay
 Kane & Associates Valerie Newman 510-623-7214

1028 Island Dr. 380/2BA 2-4 \$399,000
 Open Sunday
 Harbor Bay Realty Chuck Bianchi 510-814-4847

2515 Central Ave #104 280/2BA 2-4 \$379,000
 Open Sunday, www.openhomesalameda.com
 Gallagher & Lindsay Sheila McKell 510-748-1127

301 Broadway #106 280/2BA 2-4 \$338,000
 Open Sunday
 Centennial Frank Maniawan 510-865-4789

325 Kitty Hawk Rd 280/1.5BA 2-4 \$289,950
 Open Sunday
 Harbor Bay Realty Barbara Bolton 510-814-4714

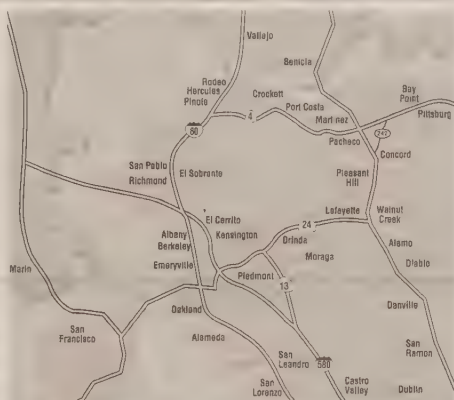
1601 Broadway #8 280/1BA 2-4 \$279,000
 Open Sunday, www.openhomesalameda.com
 Gallagher & Lindsay Bill Blissett 510-748-1108

318 Cypress St 3 +/- 1.5 2-4 \$259,000
 Open Sunday
 Harbor Bay Realty Tere Lee 510-814-4840

BERKELEY
 Address & Realty Size Hours Price
 20 Oak Ridge Rd 560/4.5 Sun 2-5 \$1,699,000
 Prudential CA Realty, Colette Ford/Anja Pionwright, 510-845-0211

195 Robie Rd 3 +/- 2.5 Sun 2-5 \$1,385,000
 Prudential CA Realty, Ford/Pionwright, 510-845-0211

2997 Dwight Way 380/2BA Sun 2-4 \$1,150,000
 RED OAK, Stan Montchew, 510-260-2115



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 The Montclair, The Piedmont, The Berkeley Voice,
 The Journal & The Alameda Journal
 Call 748-1688 or FAX 748-1679

BERKELEY

Address & Realty Size Hours Price
 1451 Olympus Ave. 480/3BA Sun 2-4:30 \$986,000
 The Grubb Co Ruth Prasetto (510) 339-0400

397 Vassar Ave 480/2.5 Sun 1-4 \$975,000
 California State Realty, Gregory Goldstein, 510-753-2400

50 Alvarado Avenue 480/3BA Sun 2-4:30 \$835,000
 The Grubb Co Bebe McRae (510) 652-2133

191 Tunnel Rd. 480/2.5 Sun 1-5 \$796,000
 C21 Heritage R.E. Mehrez Jordon 510-339-8190 x393

2908 Pine Avenue 380/1BA Sun 2-4:30 \$789,000
 The Grubb Co Carolyn Jones (510) 652-2133

2817 Prince Street 480/2BA Sun 2-4:30 \$788,000
 The Grubb Co Carolyn Jones (510) 652-2133

1 Rock Lane 380/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30 \$750,000
 The Grubb Co Nancy Lehtkind (510) 339-0400

939 Grizzly Peak 480/2BA Sun 2-5 \$748,000
 Prudential, Cynthia, 510-869-1549

2940 Ellis St 480/2BA Sun 2-5 \$758,000
 Prudential CA Realty, Colette Ford/Anja Pionwright, 510-845-0211

1318 Ordway St (West) 280/1BA Sun 1-4 \$550,000
 Coldwell Banker Barak, Gary Lukoy, 510-869-1251

2023 Carleton St 380/1.5 Sun 2-4:30 \$525,000
 Prudential, Jaka, 510-868-1400

2215 Oregon St 380/2BA Sun 2-4 \$495,000
 Thermal Properties, Nancy Poon, 510-848-1950 x255

1810 Curtis 380/1BA Sun 2-4 \$489,000
 RED OAK, Virginia Post, 510-280-2170

1200 Stannage 2 +/- 1BA Sun 2-5 \$404,000
 RED OAK, Diane Ohlson, 510-280-2139

BERKELEY

Address & Realty Size Hours Price
 1639 Stuart St 280/1BA Sun 1-4 \$359,000
 Kelly Deal (510) 484-4300

1601 10th St 280/1BA Sun 1-4 \$348,000
 Security Pacific, Jaime Lake, 510-682-9487

1601 10th St 280/1BA Sun 1-5 \$348,000
 Security Pacific, Jaime Lake, 510-682-9487

2614 Warring #2 2/2Bdrm Sun 2-4 \$345,000
 RED OAK, Tim Cassidy, 510-292-2011

2700 Locorte 180/1BA Sun 1-4 \$299,000
 Prudential CA Realty, Gaby Olander, 510-845-0211

2600 Ashby Ave #2 180/1BA 2-4 \$298,000
 Emerald, Open Sunday,
 Coldwell Banker Adale M. Wang (510) 339-4700

2292 Hillages 180/1BA Sun 2-4 \$269,000
 Thermal Properties, Helen Walker, 510-848-1950 x255

CASTRO VALLEY
 Address & Realty Size Hours Price
 16785 Parsons 2 +/- 1BA Sun 2-4:30 \$369,000
 Prudential-Montclair, Michael Stephens, 510-339-9290

EL CERRITO
 Address & Realty Size Hours Price
 6750 Snowden 780/3BA Sun 2-4 \$724,950
 Coldwell Banker Barak, France Talavera, 510-237-0372

1761 Walnut St 480/2BA Sun 1-5 \$549,000
 Prudential, Arthur White, 510-868-1446

200 San Carlos Ave 3 +/- 2BA Sun 2-4 \$515,000
 Milken Associates, Della Conces, 510-927-0211

1515 Liberty 280/1BA Sun 2-4 \$369,500
 Security Pacific, Jaime Lake, 510-682-9487

909 Everett St 280/1BA Sun 2-4 \$359,900
 Coldwell Banker Barak, Si Adagna, 510-332-0221

EL CERRITO

Address & Realty Size Hours Price
 1526 Lexington Ave 280/1BA Sun 1-4 \$335,000
 Coldwell Banker Barak, Rosa Singh, 510-289-1114

EMERYVILLE
 Address & Realty Size Hours Price
 1266 34th St 1 +/- 1 12-6 \$348,000
 Open Sunday
 Harbor Bay Realty Kathleen Mirsh 510-814-4705

10 Commodore 180/1BA Sun 1-4 \$293,500
 Virginia, Broker 510/412-6469

HAYWARD
 Address & Realty Size Hours Price
 28990 Barn Rock 1 +/- 1-4 \$779,999
 OPEN SATURDAY
 C21 Heritage R.E. Linda Smith 925-999-5112

HERCULES
 Address & Realty Size Hours Price
 340 Grandine Way 580/3BA 2-4 \$588,000
 Open Sat & Sun, www.galagherandlindsay.com
 Gallagher & Lindsay Pres Ordinario 510-748-1114

KENSINGTON
 Address & Realty Size Hours Price
 169 Ardmore Rd 380/2BA Sun 2-4 \$550,000
 Prudential CA Realty, Steve Ryan, 510-845-0211

1616 Oakview 280/1BA Sun 2-4 \$549,000
 RED OAK, Heidi Jerry Long, 510-525-5800


OAKLAND
 Address & Realty Size Hours Price
 37 Down St 5 +/- 4.5 Sun 2-4:30 \$2,820,000
 Clamont Hills Pacific Union David Ichikawa (510) 338-1331


5606 La Salle Ave 6 +/- 4 +/- 2-6 \$2,750,000
 Montclair R.E. Piedmont R.E. Jody Dzwack 510-339-8900


19024 Broadway Ter 4 +/- 3.5BA Sun 2-4:30 \$1,475,000
 race
 Montclair Pacific Union Francis Heath (510) 338-1357


6626 Norfolk Rd. 4 +/- 4.0/5.0 Sun 2-

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 **Hills** Classifieds

Prentwood Home	Danville Home Rentals	Kensington Home	Martinez Home Rentals	Oakland Home Rentals	Piedmont Home	Pleasanton Home	San Ramon Home	Walnut Creek
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58D/3BA big/water/cumula-
sac. 3 car/sls gar \$2,375
Sec. 8 ok 925-479-9106

4BD/2BA in Greenbrook
spa & grdnr. incl. \$2750 no
appt. in hand. 530-240-0010

4brd. nr. shops & BART,
1 yr. lease/dep. Sm. pets
ok \$2300. (415) 433-7637

MARTINEZ PH. 3BD/2BA, 2
bath, 1 car, 1st flr. h
+ dep. (925) 228-9559

(510) 521-1533

SHEPARD CANYON
VIEW HOME 4BD/3 1/2 BA,
162 Estates Dr., incl. pool
1600 sq. ft. 6000 sq. ft. 1000
sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.

4BD/3BA executive, new 2
story, 2570 SF nr. sch.
050500 050500 050500 050500

NICE 3BR/2B 2 car gar
Jude/Gardner, excellent schs.,
frp. no pets/no smoking
1600 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.

Blvd. Open Sun 1-4 pm
510-384-8800

OAKHURST exciting 3bd
 4BD/2BA home in Danville
 2900 925/314-4814
 3BD/2 1/2 BA, 2 car garage,
 2078 Marrazzani Dr.
 3BD/2BA
 View View View
 3BD/1BA, Completely up
 dated A/C, 2 car gar

Concord Home Rentals
4BD/3BA Beautiful exec. ches. hme 2800 sq. ft. West of I-580. Call (925) 226-9588

NICE HOME Exec. 1 1/2 story 3BD/2BA, Must see! \$2300 + dep. Call (925) 226-9588

MONTECLAIR 3BD/2 1/2 BA, 1 1/2 story, 1500 sq. ft., 3 car garage, walk to schs. Old world charm, org wdwk. NS, no pets. \$5,500/mo. 510-986-2100 925-254-1845

Richmond Home Rentals
3BD/2 1/2 BA, 2-story, 5 yrs new 2 car gar. on Alameda. Call (925) 226-9588

mod. \$1375 510 526-8551
CUTE remod. 2BD/2BA, lg.
4BD/3BA, upgrades, 3300
sf. 3359, Green Meadows
2BD/2BA, QUIET, CLEAN,
Modern Duplex, \$1700
925-930-7780 (Spokane)
3BD sunny frnc. gar. pet
+ dep. 925-964-1140
nonemkg. W/D hook-up.
\$2800 (519) 339-0395.
Pinole Home Rentals
lease, frnc. yd, gar, gas
stv, refrig., W/D, Richmond
view. (707) 446-1902
gar, sunrm, nr sch.
\$2500/mo. 925-829-3397
ml from 680/24 FWY, up
dated, \$1875 925/785-095

3BD/BA Dana Estates, nr
entl RV prking, no pets
\$1998 510-986-6700 x-101
Discovery Bay
LAFAYETTE, AT
3BD + bonus, spa, deck,
yrd, W/D hkup, frpl,
panoramic/pets/sect.
810-383-6666
3BD/2BA Valley Rancher,
New kit W/D/Batfrn Open
3BD/BA cor. new paint
3BD/3BA \$2000, 2 car gar,
commun pool, nr schls
denr, refridg, 2 car gar
rage Pool in assoc n
smking no pets \$2200

3 BD/2 BA, waterfront, all new, w/gardener. \$1650/mo. + dep. 925-997-1735
3BD in new vd. 2 car gar. Jeffrey (415) 391-5555
360 Glacier, \$1780, no pets, 925/939/4776
SPECTACULAR Panaramas (510) 531-8633
Areal Alarm. No section 8. \$1900/mo. (510) 582-1642
3BD 1 BA, 337 South 7th St. Sect 8. \$1500/mo. dep. negot. (510) 236-7118
Applis. 1700 sf. Near schs. \$1900/mo. (925) 829-4526
AC 2 car gar, RV Close to BART, gr sch 101 Ygnac. Call No pets/no-smoke

3BD/2BA Nice house. Pet incl. gardener. \$1750 925/222-2222	\$1475 - dep. 925/516-8771	IMMACULATE 3bd + 2 1/2 bdr Elec. & gas incl. No pets. \$2000 + dep 925/9991891	schs./shops. pets nego. \$2300 925/932-4156	granite & tile. Best appls. 2 fridges, pantry, laundry rm., mstr. suite w/ jettub. 2 car \$2300 510/222-6295	mod kit bath nr schs & trans. \$1800 510/237/6872	4BD/2BA on Ct. Bonus rm. lg yd./RV prking/gdrn incl	WD hook-up, ofc. Nr town No sect. 8. Pet negotiable \$1775mo 925/284-2929
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2 YEAR OLD home w/ 2/2B 2 car gar. 1615 sq. ft. \$205,000 (925) 846-7330

3BD/2BA, \$1850 mo. Water & gardener paid. No dogs

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Spectacular 4BD/3BA
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3BD/2BA, m/fc., new kit
11975 Open Sat-Sun 11-2

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BA 3712 bmo Nr. 3442	(707) 452-9570	51775/mo. 925-838-9551	sec'l. yd. w/pool & gardner \$3150. 925/933-3969	Oakley Home Rentals	3BD/2BA, yard, heat/air, by BART, good credit \$1595 Owner 707-726-4500	3BD/2BA: Sect. 8 ok, no pets \$1800, garb incl. 647 12th St (510) 758-8148	GOLF Course gated com- mun., magnificent view. 4BD/2BA, cul-de-sac	510/549-6982 info/show
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3 BD/2 BA, A/C, gar, tpic.
Lg yd, no pets/sect. 8/smk.
\$1500 - dep 925/671/0227

400/27/2BA,
pool, new,
925/736-9867

3700. 925/284-8570

CREEKSIDE setting 1 + bo.
cht. rfto. Wd lg yd

3 BD/2 BA, avail. now. Nice
area. No pets. \$1500/mo
\$2000. 925/284-8570

quiet nrhhd., big bd, lg
kitchen, \$1625/mo
\$2000. sec. dep. No car. 8

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4BD/2 5BA, exec. tri-lv.
A/C, tpic., nonsmk, nr all
amen. 925/284-8570

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ALMOST new, 5BD/3BA on quiet - St. Albans Rd. \$1995mo 925-619-5560
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DUBLIN ranch 5BD/3BA on
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 log cabin sleeps 2-12

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Exec style lux. hm in Dubl.
Ranch, 7BD/4BA, cte. 3980
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dep. Nonsmk 925/462/2911

2 BD, central air, walkout

REDWOOD HEIGHTS
2BD, dnx, fric, woodsy

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2000 SF w/pool. Near schls
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<p>Crockett Home Rentals</p> <p>2BD, horse nego., miles of trails, \$950 + dep 635-6606</p>	<p>El Cerrito Home Rentals</p> <p>2BD/1BA. Spacious. Dining room, frpl., fenced yard garage, pet OK. 2035 Mac 635-6606</p>	<p>3BD/1BA new cpt./fr., 2 gar., frpl., liv. rm., AC, W/D. \$1550 + dep 510/739/1394</p>	<p>3BD beauty, wine cellar, etc., grdnr. \$1700 + sec. 520-8864</p>	<p>3BD beauty, wine cellar, garden, pet, no pets, nonsmkg (925) 551-8433</p>	<p>SOUTH LAKE TAHOE</p> <p>3BD/2BA, sleeps 8, 2</p>
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2BD/1BA, 3 story on creek, study frplc, hwdw \$1,950/mo. 925-820-2592

[illegible]

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1800 sq ft new cabs & cor
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4BD/2BA Hm., prt. se
view, new appl's, fenced
yd \$3100 925/283-0384

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cpt., new paint, good loc
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2BDR, 6 module laundry, shingles, hwdw. flrs., skylights, fireplace + 10x20 work room. Nonsmoking. No pets. \$2950 (924) 254-5294

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Ad #1885 925-8338-1150
paint, 1018 N. Rancho Rd.
\$1500 mo. (510) 755-0245.

3BD/2BA one story Crow Canyon C.C. 1750 sq. ft. \$1950 + dep. 925/846-7300

4BD/3BA - 2 yr. old; FSBO, 1600 sf., 2 story Green Valley. \$1,600/mo. 916-333-4497

4BD/2 1/2 BA, new paint, large yard, no pets

GRAND LAKE 3BD/1BA
C.C. in Green Valley

Rentals

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Indry, prking, lg. yd. No Sec 8 \$1195 415/552-3133

Trail head. Daily rate. Los Trail Lodge (530) 320-926

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99A rd. W. Alamo, east
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\$1750 925 447-2340

38D98A, Hills, near Mont
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hwd., tpic, 1990s BA/kt.,
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0682ZBA in blvd No pet

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Abby 707-638-6444

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brdwd. on patio of terrace

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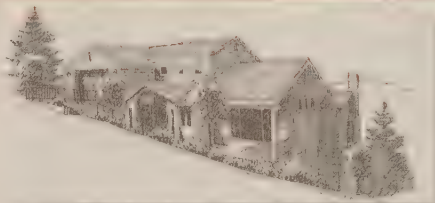
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Cougars make it nine league titles in a row

Bender delivers 18 kills
Albany dispatches St.
Mary's in BSAL final

By Pete Elman
STAFF WRITER
ALBANY — The Albany High girls' volleyball team won the straight league championship on Saturday, beating visiting St. Mary's 13-15, 15-10, 15-10 in the Bay Shore Athletic League tournament final. The Cougars (24-7) have won previous six as a member of the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League.

letic League.

Playing at home with a phalanx of ACCAL and BSAL pennants hanging on the gym wall, the Cougars showed why they are perennial champions. It took them a game to get into their groove, but when they did there was no stopping them.

Behind a career performance by senior middle blocker Kirsten Bender (18 kills in 31 attempts, three aces) the Cougars (24-7), after spotting the Panthers the opening game, turned on the heat and ripped off three straight games to take the title.

St. Mary's (15-7) is a young team led by their outstanding se-

PREP VOLLEYBALL

nior outside hitter and league MVP Jazmin Pratt (10 kills). The Panthers came out as anything but underdogs in the first game, overcoming an 11-6 deficit and hanging on to win the opener 15-13. Albany coach Jon Segall sensed this might happen.

"We were nervous and over-anxious, and I had a feeling we might let down early," Segall said.

The second game started out close with both teams playing well, especially defensively, as players hit the floor hard to dig

out slams. They went back and forth until it was 10-9, when the Cougars' Dimphy Sasse (15 kills) made her presence known with a bang.

Senior opposite hitter Sasse, a powerful lefty who spikes with a flourish, rose up and drilled a rocket just inside the line that brought the Cougars bench to their feet. The momentum clearly had shifted, and Albany seized the opportunity and took the second game, 15-10.

"We seemed to lose our drive and heart after the first game," said Panthers rookie coach Cherise Revell, "and we started making mistakes. You give Al-

bany in inch, they'll take a mile."

As the third game started, Segall reminded his team of what got them there. "We got our rhythm and starting playing Albany volleyball: ball control, tough serving and a steady attitude," he said afterward.

Cougars junior setter Delaney Danielson (31 assists), an intense on-the-court leader, got her rhythm in the third game. With her defense, led by Christine Seith (33 digs), allowing her to make the second pass to set up the scorers, Danielson repeatedly found Sasse, Bender and junior middle blocker Emma Spear-mann (eight kills, four blocks)

open, and more often than not they found the mark.

With Bender leading the way with six kills, the third game was classic Albany volleyball, the veteran team playing with feel, exuberance and ruthlessness. The Panthers never knew what hit them as they looked up and saw the scoreboard read 15-2.

Game four started out with the Cougars on a roll. The flamboyant Sasse, who, along with Spear-mann and senior Katie Jensen is a first team All-BSAL selection, blocked a shot at the net, and on the next play ripped

See VOLLEYBALL, Page 2

PREP FOOTBALL



HOLLIS picks up yardage in Berkeley's 13-7 win over El Cerrito. The Yellow Jackets open the NCS 4A playoffs Saturday vs. Hayward.

Young's return rescues Berkeley

Yellow Jackets get
El Cerrito, enter the
playoffs at 10-0

Mike McGreehan
STAFF WRITER

BERKELEY — Berkeley High did not play its best football of the year when it hosted the rival El Cerrito in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League football last Friday. All of the Yellow Jackets' emotions disappeared, how-

ever when Sean Young ran a back 52 yards for a touch-down with 40 seconds left for a

win. When you play El Cerrito, you know an archival and you know our records," Berkeley coach Matt Bissell said.

Young's punt return not only gave Berkeley overtime but gave them a 7-0, 10-0 the ACCAL game in spite of many struggles.

Berkeley moves on to play the seeded Hayward in the first round of the North Coast Section 4A playoffs at Berkeley on Saturday. Kickoff is 7

and the Yellow Jackets have to play better than they did against El Cerrito. The most part, Berkeley looked like an underdog team during the course of the game with the Gauchos.

The Yellow Jackets receivers had numerous passes and

NCS playoffs First round 4A Hayward at Berkeley

■ **WHERE:** Berkeley High School, 2246 Milvia St., Berkeley

■ **WHEN:** 7 p.m.

■ **LAST WEEK:** Hayward lost to San Leandro 43-21; Berkeley beat El Cerrito 13-7.

■ **RECORDS:** Hayward 9-1, 7-1 HAAL; Berkeley 10-0, 9-0 ACCAL

■ **FACTS:** After suffering their first loss of the season, the Farmers head for their first North Coast Section appearance since 1993. Stelvan Harper led the Farmers' ground game, rushing for 65 yards and two touchdowns from 6 and 1 yard out. Despite a slew of mistakes on offense, the Yellow Jackets narrowly averted overtime last week and protected their undefeated record when Sean Young returned a punt 52 yards for the winning score with 40 seconds remaining.

the team managed just 97 yards on the ground. Big plays proved to be the difference.

Berkeley trailed 7-0 in the third quarter before Robert Hunter-Ford caught a Desallines Gant screen pass, got two great open-field blocks and rambled 57 yards for the tying touch-down.

Berkeley threatened on the game's opening drive, but a 27-yard field goal attempt by Terrell Elliott was unsuccessful.

2A East Bay St. Mary's at Miramonte

■ **WHERE:** Miramonte High School, 750 Moraga Way, Orinda

■ **WHEN:** 7:30 p.m. today

■ **RECORDS:** Miramonte 10-0, St. Mary's 4-5-1

■ **LAST WEEK:** Miramonte beat Concord 58-0. St. Mary's lost to Piedmont 10-7

■ **FACTS:** Both teams are post-season veterans but in recent years have produced far different results once they have gotten there. After reaching the NCS 2A East Bay title game in 1998, the Panthers have lost their first-round games in each of the past three years. Starting with 1997, the Matadors have been perfect in the postseason, with the exception being a 28-21 first-round loss to Foothill in the 1999 NCS 2A East Bay playoffs.

If Berkeley didn't look like its usual self, El Cerrito appeared far better than a team trying to salvage a middling season. It was the Gauchos who broke a scoreless deadlock when running back John Norman scored on a 1-yard run with 2 minutes, 8 seconds left in the first half.

Norman was the game's leading rusher with 77 yards on 18 carries. Overall, the Gauchos (3-4, 4-6) rushed for 118 yards but

passed for only 11.

Berkeley's Gant finished with 148 passing yards despite completing just 4 of 19 attempts.

"El Cerrito should be really proud," Bissell said. "They played their butts off."

"I'm extremely proud of them," Gauchos coach George Austin said of his players. "They played very hard — I'm disappointed for the seniors, but Berkeley is just a very great team."

Austin made special mention of the performances of Norman, running back-linebacker Mario Cox and wide receiver-defensive back James Cannon.

Cox, a sophomore, gained 24 yards on seven carries. He also intercepted a Berkeley pass on his own 1-yard line.

Cannon — like Norman, a junior — played well on both sides of the ball and was instrumental on special teams.

Berkeley 13, El Cerrito 7

El Cerrito 0 0 0 0 0 — 7
Berkeley 0 0 0 0 0 — 13
EC — Norman 1 run (Magagnoli kick)
BERK — Hunter-Ford 57 pass from Gant (Elliott kick)
BERK — Young 52 punt return (kick failed)

First downs EC 8 BERK 9
Rushing yards EC 118 BERK 97
Passing 28-2 BERK 41-19
Passing yards 11 148
Total offense 129 245
Fumbles/lost 2/2 1/0

Individual statistics
Rushing — EC — Norman 18-77, Cox 7-24, Wright 3-20, Sharer 5-3, Cannon 1-15, BERK — A. Coles 5-35, F. Coles 7-29, Young 2-16, Gant 3-9, Boatwright 1-7, Watson 2-3, Hollis 5-(-2)
Passing — EC — Wright 2-8-2-11, BERK — Gant 4-19-1-148
Receiving — EC — Norman 1-9, Cannon 1-2, BERK — Hunter-Ford 2-55, McBreen 1-34, Hollis 1-15

Piedmont kicker keeps cool, wins it

By Scott Strain

STAFF WRITER

BERKELEY — Call him "Cool Hand" Lindenmayer. Or better yet, "Cool Foot."

Evan Lindenmayer, Piedmont's junior place-kicker, icily kicked a 28-yard field goal — his first of the season — with four seconds left in the game to give the Highlanders a 10-7 victory over St. Mary's on Saturday afternoon.

The last-minute victory enabled Piedmont (7-3, 4-1 Bay Shore Athletic League) to get an at-large bid for the North Coast Section 2A playoffs. The No. 6 seed Highlanders play at third-seeded Campolindo (7-3) Saturday night in Moraga at 7.

St. Mary's (4-5-1, 2-3-1) will play top seed Miramonte (10-0) Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Orinda.

John Swett (10-0, 5-0), a Class A school, got the Bay Shore Athletic League's automatic bid to NCS.

Piedmont defensive tackle Andrew Sowell recovered a St. Mary's fumble on the Panthers' 38-yard line with 1 minute 37 seconds left in the game. The Highlanders drove down to the St. Mary's 11 and with five seconds left, the Panthers called consecutive timeouts to try to rattle Lindenmayer.

He wasn't having any of it. "I

wasn't nervous; the delay (time-outs) didn't bother me," Lindenmayer said. "I make 'em all the time in practice and I just went out there and did it."

The game-winning drive was highlighted by a 5-yard scramble by quarter Brian Trowbridge that gave Piedmont a first down at the St. Mary's 26 and a 13-yard pass from Trowbridge to Pat Castles that put the ball on the Panthers' 7. A fumble almost cost Piedmont the ball on the next play and did push the Highlanders back 4 yards before Lindenmayer made his kick.

The Highlanders had a rough time making any sort of conversion kicks the first part of the season, but coach Rusty Robb refused to blame Lindenmayer.

"What gave us trouble was our blocking schemes (on PATs)," Robb said. "Once we fixed that, we had no trouble (making kicks)."

The first half ended in a 0-0 tie as Piedmont had three drives in St. Mary's territory short-circuited by two lost fumbles and interception. The Panthers, on the other hand, were hit with three 15-yard penalties in the first two quarters that hindered

See PIEDMONT, Page 2

Albany's sad season has a happy ending

By Orlando Molina

TIMES STAFF WRITER

RICHMOND — With nothing else to play for but pride, the Albany High School football team outlasted Kennedy in a 41-32 shootout to collect their first Bay Shore Athletic League win in their final game of the season.

Albany running back Brad Phelps led the charge as he rushed for 238 yards on 15 carries with five touchdowns.

Phelps put the Cougars (3-7, 1-4 BSAL) on the board early in the first quarter with touchdown runs of 56 and 1 yard for a quick 13-0 lead.

But the Eagles (1-9, 0-5), despite suiting up just 14 players due to eligibility problems, saved their best game for last and countered with a 26-point second quarter to take a 26-20 lead at the half. Antonio Norman returned a punt 50 yards for a score and raced 55 yards on a touchdown run to spark Kennedy. He finished the game rushing for 194 yards on 14 carries.

"They caught us flat-footed," Cougars coach Anthony Freeman

said. "Kennedy is very athletic and we're very disciplined. We have to box guys in."

After both teams traded touchdowns in the third quarter, Phelps struck again in the fourth to give the Cougars the lead for good.

Phelps set up the go-ahead drive late in the third quarter, returning a kickoff 54 yards up the gut to the Eagles' 26-yard line. Three plays later, Phelps' number was called again and he rumbled 14 yards for the score to make it 34-32 Albany with 8:25 left to play in the game.

"Phelps has been a great success," Freeman said. "He's really coming into his own now."

The Cougars put the game away after taking advantage of one of quarterback Aaron Miles' few mistakes.

Facing a second-and-six at midfield, Miles threw down field along the right sideline into double coverage. There Matt Ball stepped in front of intended receiver DeAndre Prim and made the interception, which he re-

See ALBANY, Page 2

DECK

Football

at Miramonte, 7:30 p.m. tonight. The Matadors (4-5-1) have to face the Cougars (10-0) in the first round of the 2A East Bay matchup.

at Berkeley, 7 p.m. Saturday. The game should be a fine matchup between the ACCAL champion Yellow Jackets (10-0), the fifth seed in the

NCS 4A playoffs, against a talented fourth-seeded Hayward team (9-1).

JC football

College of Marin at Contra Costa, 7 p.m. Saturday — In order to keep their bowl hopes alive, the Comets (4-5, 2-2) will have to find an answer for Marin quarterback Geary Davenport. The De Anza High School graduate threw for

781 yards in a 72-69 loss to Solano last week. The mark is a United States Junior College/Community College record and collegiate record, and is thought to be the highest individual passing total in organized football (college, high school or NFL) history.

Girls volleyball

NCS Division IV championship match,

7 p.m. Saturday. — At press time, both top seed Albany and No. 4 St. Mary's are still alive in the chase for the section championship.

Stars of the week

Kirsten Bender, Albany volleyball — The senior middle blocker produced 18 kills and three aces as Albany claimed the Bay Shore Athletic League title for

the third straight year with a 13-15, 15-2, 15-10, 15-9 victory over St. Mary's.

Brad Phelps, Albany football — Phelps rushed for 238 yards and five touchdowns in the Cougars' 41-32 win over Kennedy.

Aleesha Woodruff, St. Mary's volleyball — Woodruff passed for 45 assists in a BSAL tournament semifinal win over Piedmont, and also had eight

aces and 42 assists in a first-round win over Salesian. In the championship match, Woodruff contributed 26 assists.

Vanessa Williams, Berkeley volleyball — Williams produced 13 kills, 15 digs, six blocks and two aces as the Yellow Jackets clinched another undefeated Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League season with a 14-16, 15-9, 15-2, 15-8 win over Alameda.

Hawaiian guitar master

and learn about slack key guitar when Kalamoku Jr. comes to Berkeley's Bear. Page C3

Byrds to bluegrass

■ Rock and roll hall of famer Chris Hillman comes to Freight and Salvage on Monday. Page C3

Bond is back

■ "Die Another Day" has the standard elements you expect in film's longest running series. Page C10

Media Notes

■ Will computers replace editors in deciding top news stories? That's the approach one online provider is taking. Page C4

Cross country takes center stage

By Scott Strain
STAFF WRITER

Practically the only thing left to decide in the Bay Shore Athletic League competition before the curtain falls on winter sports is who does what in cross country.

Water polo is done, girls tennis is over and football is well, hanging in there with Piedmont, John Sweet and St. Mary's carrying the BSAL banner.

But the North Coast Section has its major Meet of Champions in cross country Saturday at Hayward High and four BSAL schools — Albany, Pied-

BSAL NOTEBOOK

mont, St. Joseph and St. Mary's — could have a major impact on what happens in Division IV.

Sean Carey of Albany won the BSAL boys varsity title at Joaquin Miller Park in Oakland on Nov. 7, winning the 3.1-mile event in 19 minutes, 52 seconds.

Nick Raushenbush of Piedmont finished second in 20:18 and Neal Rodriguez of St. Joseph was third in 20:20. All three runners could be considered as potential titlists or high

finishers.

Piedmont, which placed four runners in the top 10 at the BSAL meet and won the team title, could be a strong contender for the Division IV title as well.

Ricky Griffith (20:20), Cole Bunzel (20:34) and Santino Moya-Smith (20:46) were all top 10 finishers for the Highlanders.

St. Mary's had the 8-10 spots with Scott Howard (20:48), Tino Rodriguez (21:02) and Matt Mullarkey (21:03) finishing strong.

The best chance for BSAL honors at this event, however,

is in the girls event. Gabriela Rios-Sotelo of St. Mary's won the BSAL meet in a time of 22:19, a full 68 seconds better than the second-place finisher, Jehan Sparks of Piedmont (23:27).

Rios-Sotelo could be considered the favorite in Division IV and the Highlanders, with their great team depth, should challenge very strongly for the team championship.

Sparks (21:27) and teammate Allison Rowe (23:26) finished second and third at the BSAL meet, with Emily Olson of St. Mary's (24:02) in fourth. Piedmont's Naomi Sparks (19), Danielle Geong (24:30), Erica Simpson (25:07) and Dana Isokawa (also 25:07) finished fifth through eighth.

Enscoe takes his act to NCS

By Orlando Molina
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Just weeks after taking his second consecutive Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League cross country title, Berkeley High School's Alex Enscoe will put his act up against the best Division I has to offer in Saturday's North Coast Section championships in Hayward.

Practically running in his backyard, Enscoe, a junior, successfully defended his ACCAL title on Nov. 6 with a first-place finish in Berkeley's 2.95-mile course at Tilden Park. He finished in 16 minutes, 54 seconds, well ahead of Alameda's Yoji Reichert (17:25).

Enscoe's performance also spearheaded the Yellow Jack-ets' 23-34 win for their first team championship since Berkeley entered the ACCAL in 2000. Last year at NCS, Enscoe finished 31st out of 129 competitors.

On the girls' side, Alameda has faced little or no competition throughout the season. At the league championships, that remained the case. The Hornets dominated the two-team field, sweeping El Cerrito 15-50.

Corinne Roberts led the Hornets by defending her ACCAL title in a race where she never trailed. She finished in 21:13, ahead of teammate Kristin Wheeler (22:10).

At last year's NCS championships, Roberts finished seventh out of 104 runners.

It does not take an NCS appearance to have a season to be proud of, and De Anza is proof of that.

Sporting a 5-9 record in the ACCAL, the Dons managed to turn a few heads with their own brand of gritty determination. Leading that group, was

ACCAL NOTEBOOK

the team's junior captain Kendra Wang.

"She was the heart of our team," Dons coach Paula Bonkofsky said. "The girls knew every game she wanted to work hard to win, and she stepped up to help out. That's what was expected of a team captain."

"It was all about her. It didn't matter if we were lost," Wang said. "I don't want to be above or below just want to walk with teammates."

With just nine players, three of which were new to varsity, the Dons were expected to make noise in the standings. It did that the Dons rounded out coach with less than a week before the start of the schedule.

Lacking any pressure, Wang said the team chemistry. And it showed the Dons took their first three first team championships. Wang said the team found a spark on Oct. 1 sweep over Hercules. She called it the most important match of the season.

"It was the first time we came together. We played together as a team," Wang said.

In that same match, she slipped and pulled her hamstringing, an injury she nagged her all season.

After helping the Dons select four more wins to a three-way tie for third in the ACCAL with El Cerrito Pinole Valley, Wang finished the season with 93 points, 135 assists and an average of 9.7 assists per game.

She insisted the team were not her because of injury, but her toughness and dedication left a big impact in the eyes of her coach.

"She's a true athlete with heart. She understands being a competitor," Bonkofsky said.

JACK LONDON YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE

RESULTS OF NOV. 16-17

Under-12 girls

Oakland Azteca Girls 2, Rockridge Tigers 0: The Rockridge Tigers finished their fall season in this hard-fought loss. The Tigers were led on offense by Lauren Woodfill and Kelsey Isbester, who both covered lots of ground and took dangerous shots in the first half. Lainey Rachap put a shot on target late the game, but the Azteca goalkeeper made a fine save.

Outstanding in midfield was Kate Schroeder, whose dribbling and running skills kept the Tigers moving forward. Rockridge's defensive standouts were Emily Manheim and Carrie Bergen, whose timely tackles shut out the Aztecas in the second half.

Under-10 boys

Rockridge Golden Eagles 4, Alameda Thunder Eagles 2: Led by Alex Sommer's hat trick, the Golden Eagles enjoyed a comeback victory at Alameda Point on Saturday.

After falling behind 2-0 just 14 minutes into the game, the Golden Eagles' passing game clicked. One minute later, midfielder Ben Mittelberger brought the ball forward and found forward Sommer, who made one move to get free and shot under the advancing goalkeeper to reduce the deficit.

Mittelberger added several shots of his own, and Brady Hirsch forced the Alameda goalkeeper into a fine save before the half ended.

Early in the second half, Mittelberger struck the post with a shot, which rebounded to Sommer for a put-away from 5 yards. Adam Levi covered lots of ground in midfield and forced the Thunder Eagles into several turnovers.

Rockridge pulled ahead 10 minutes into the second half when Sommer dribbled into the penalty area, spun and delivered a perfect cross to Will Rodenick, who side-footed a half-volley into the net. With two minutes to play, Sommer com-

pleted his hat trick with help from Roderick and Mittelberger.

Leading the Golden Eagles defense were Josh Newborn and Dylan James-Kavanaugh. Brady Hirsch also worked the ball out of danger on two tense occasions late in the game.

Oakland Rattlesnake Jrs. 5, Rockridge Raptors 2: The Rattlesnakes met stiff defense from the Raptors to start the game. However, after a few adjustments, the Oakland side found its scoring stride. Center half-back Kyle Gavce got things started in the 16th minute as he took the ball straight up the middle, eluded one defender, and met the onrushing goalkeeper with a powerful high shot that smashed into the top of the net.

The Snakes struck again less than a minute later as Gavce took a ball at midfield, then combined on a pretty play with right halfback Oscar Mendoza for a 2-nil bulge.

The Raptors scored a goal just after the break, but the Rattlesnakes' Richie Mendoza struck less than a minute later to return the lead to two goals.

The Raptors scored another goal at the 40-minute mark to once again stay within range. But the Rattlesnakes again pushed up the offense, and Daniel Cooper made it more comfortable in the 45th minute when he cleaned up rebound with a left-footed finish.

Richie Mendoza added to his fine offensive season when he put the game away with a long shot to the right corner. Forward Eric Mendoza put in his best minutes of the season with aggressive play.

Under-10 girls

Rockridge Firebolts 3, The Firebolts Lightning 3: The Firebolts ended a banner season with a draw against their friends, the Lightning. This was the third and most exciting meeting between the teams this season.

The seasaw affair saw the Lightning go ahead 1-0 with an early goal from a high shot over

Firebolts goalkeeper Abby Pistoni. The Firebolts equalized shortly after, as forward Zoe Karanfilian scored on a powerful shot. The Firebolts then went ahead 2-1 on another goal by Karanfilian, who handled a perfect cross from the right wing from midfielder Natalie Lyons-Cohen after a long touchline run by Lauren Horst.

The Lightning fought back and equalized again despite strong defensive play by the Firebolts back line. The Firebolts hung tough and went ahead for a second time when Megan Crayton scored off an indirect kick.

But the Lightning wouldn't give up, either, and tied the game late in the second half by sneaking through the Firebolts defense.

Alameda Red Dragons 1, Rockridge Rockets 1: The Red Dragons finished the season with a hard-played, strong effort.

With a 1-0 deficit at the half, the Red Dragons bounced back through the strong efforts of goalkeeper Hanna Cunningham and defenders Katherine Johnson, Emily Quilici and Allison Miller,

who not only kept the Rockets off the scoreboard in the second half, but kept the ball at the opposite end of the field most of the time.

Midfielders Kristina Lam, Zoe Shay and Casey Hutchinson kept the ball moving downfield with superb tackles and passing. And Jamie Banks, Michelle Blackman, Camila Martinez-Granata, and Valerie Fong maintained strong offensive pressure with some nifty passing and shooting.

Teamwork paid off, as tenacious Sammy Freitag blasted a loose ball into the net for the tying goal.

The Red Dragons ended their season with a 6-2-1 record under the guidance of coach Ronnie Lam and assistants Ron Quilici, Jim Banks, and Bernice Blackman.

Under-8 boys

For inclusion in the Hills Newspapers on a space-available basis, call Jack London Youth Soccer League reports to 339-7811 or e-mail jlhnyes@aol.com. Deadline is Monday evening at 7 p.m. Include age bracket, both

BSAL

FROM PAGE 1

with Spearmann and senior Katie Jensen is a first team All-BSAL selection, blocked a shot at the net, and on the next play ripped a winner inside the back line to give Albany a 5-0 lead. They appeared unstoppable.

But St. Mary's would not go quietly into the night. With their vociferous rooting section cheering them on, the young Panthers kept their cool against the reigning champs.

Pratt, showing why she is the MVP of the BSAL, scored twice. Teammates Britney Murney (six kills), Martha Ryan (seven kills, two blocks) and freshman Natalie Bogan (eight kills, four blocks) stood tall for the Panthers as they kept it close.

Ryan, in particular, played a fine match, giving up her body on numerous occasions, going to the hardwood to keep the ball alive.

At 7-4 Albany, Spearmann leaped high for a spike, and as her shot successfully split the defenders she fell in a heap. The gym was silent for a few minutes as staff attended to her, but she stood up to cheers, shook off Segall and remained in the game.

This pumped up her teammates, but with a 9-4 lead the Cougars suddenly went flat. The

Panthers knew that it was now or never — and Albany had let its guard down.

But it was just a bump in the road. With the score 10-8 and her teammates visibly tiring, Bender fiercely took over the match, scoring on three consecutive plays to give the Cougars a 12-8 lead. After exchanging sideouts Bender had the serve, and two plays later it was over, 15-9. The Cougars had won their ninth consecutive championship.

"I thought before the match we might lose the first game. St. Mary's has been playing great ball, and we may see them again," Segall said. "But once we settled down and played our game, we were fine."

Albany will go into the North Coast section Division IV tourney as the top seed, looking to get some payback against perennial northern power Clear Lake, which knocked them out in the semifinals last year.

But for now, they can savor being conference champs, once again.

"We came in with a sense of security, and St. Mary's surprised us," said a satisfied Bender after the contest. "After the second game we had the reassurance to just play volleyball. This win shows our character. After all, we have a legacy to maintain," she said, looking up at the wall and smiling.

Piedmont

FROM PAGE 1

quarters that hindered their efforts.

The first time Piedmont had the ball in the first quarter, the Highlanders drove all the way to the St. Mary's 14 before fumbling. On the third play from scrimmage, Trowbridge completed a 70-yard pass to tight end David Tovani that carried down to the St. Mary's 6-yard line. Two players later, Piedmont fumbled and the Panthers' Jason Bolden-Anderson recovered.

The second time Piedmont had the ball, St. Mary's had whacked punter An Teng in his own end zone, giving Piedmont a first down at the Panthers' 16. The Scots drove 86 yards before fumbling.

The next time Piedmont had the ball, the Highlanders drove down to the St. Mary's 30 before an interception intervened.

Castles intercepted a pass that gave Piedmont the ball on the St. Mary's 27 late in the third quarter. With 2:11

left in the period, Castles scored on a 14-yard run and with the PAT kick, Piedmont had a 7-0 lead.

St. Mary's Steve Murphy ran the ensuing kickoff back 40 yards. After Fred Hives had a 28-yard run that put the ball on the Highlanders' 13, Murphy threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to Ryan Coogler. Brendan Slevin kicked the PAT to tie the game at 7-7 with 10:44 left in the game.

Piedmont 10, St. Mary's 7

Piedmont	0	0	7	3	-10
St. Mary's	0	0	0	7	-7
P-Castles 14 run (Lindenmayer kick)					
SM-Coogler 10 pass from Murphy (Slevin kick)					
P-Lindenmayer 28 field goal					
Individual statistics					
	P	SM			
First downs	18	13			
Rushing yards	44-166	27-155			
Passing	5-15-2	9-14-1			
Passing yards	95	66			
Total offense	261	220			
Fumbles/lost	3/2	3/2			
Records: Piedmont 7-3, 4-1 BSAL; St. Mary's 4-5-1, 2-3.					

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SHOW TIMES

Bargain Matinees Daily - All Shows Before 6 p.m.

Die Another Day THX, Digital, On 3 Screens
No Passes - PG-13 (11:15, 12:15, 2:30, 3:15, 5:30)
6:45, 7:30, 8:30, 9:40, 10:30

Harry Potter 2: Chamber of Secrets THX, Digital
On 4 Screens, No Passes - PG (10:45, 11:30, 12:30, 2:30, 3:15, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 9:15, 10:00)

Empire's Club THX, Digital, No Passes - PG-13 (11:10, 1:45, 4:20) 7:10, 9:45

The Ring THX, Digital - PG-13 (1:35, 2:05, 4:45) 7:40, 10:15

I Spy THX, Digital - PG-13 10:20 p.m. Only

Santa Clause 2 THX, Digital - G (11:25, 2:00, 4:30) 7:15, 9:50

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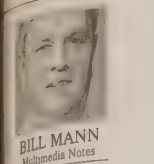
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Arts



BILL MANN Multimedia Notes

Editors Googled out of a job?

EDITORS," A NEWSPA-
writing colleague once
said, "are there to prevent
from making fools of our-
selves. And sometimes, they
do look foolish." The for-
tune teller more often than the
editor.

They had a handful of bad ed-
itors and a lot more good edi-
tors in my 25 years of writing
newspaper columns.

The very best editors are
highly literate people —
they know their way around
the language, they know the proper
use of "that" and "which"
— they know what a restric-
tional clause is — but they're also
human beings.

This brings us to what may
not be an ominous
sign for editors: News without
editors.

Google, the Internet's top
search engine, has recently
added a News feature on its
home page (look at the upper
right of your screen). But un-
like Yahoo News (which is
owned by AP and Reuters sto-
ries) or Google News (which
is owned by Google), the ser-
vice is not used by Yahoo, for-
tunately a search engine) is as-
signed and sorted without
human editorial input.

Google calls this "a novel
approach to news." It uses an
algorithm (basically, a software
program) to sort through 4,000
sources worldwide and
algorithmically arrange to pre-
sent the most relevant news
items.

Google News," it says, "is
unusual in that it offers
a service compiled solely
from algorithms with-
out human intervention."

I've been checking Google
daily for the past couple
weeks, and generally, this
seems to be working —
the most newsworthy
items usually make it to
the top of the page. Still, one
dislike at the idea of news
being "sorted" without an editor.

There are few areas of the
news publishing industry
that remain untouched by
technology and the IT revolu-
tion. One example: My wife is
an expert book indexer (who
teaches the indexing
trade at UC Berkeley). She
uses some book publishers
who use software in-
stead of using human indexers
and manuscripts. Says my
wife with a sigh, "But they've
been up with some really aw-
ful, useless, indexes."

Especially guilty, she says,
are computer-book com-
panies, some of whom are still
using Writers, of course,
to be the next ones imperiled
by computer technology (you
know we've been headed here,
right?).

I've admitted, I'm about
to step away from the
keyboard. But one wonders what a
computer-soiloquy might
be as rendered by an al-
gorithm. To exist. Or not to
exist. That's the issue that must
be addressed. What is better —
enduring suffering and hard-
ship, or to challenge it and pos-
sibly defeat it? etc., etc.

One of the "thousand nat-
ions" that flesh is heir
to, over to an algorithm,
to something like: "Hu-
man beings are subject to many in-
juries. Some occur in the
workplace."

One can think of some
of the most famous literary passages
as being generated by a software pro-
gram. Please e-mail them, and
I'll be the first to use the better
ones. That is, if I'm still here!

Bill Mann, Page C5



GEORGE KAHUMOKU JR. with his guitar and his grandson, Aaron. The slack-key master performs Saturday at Temple Bar in Berkeley.

The spirit of aloha in Berkeley

George Kahumoku Jr. will teach and perform at Temple Bar

By Brian Kluepfel
CORRESPONDENT

Like many island peoples, Hawaiians have been adept at taking outside influences and turning them into something uniquely their own. A perfect example of this is the slack-key style of guitar playing (ki ho 'alu). Picking up the guitars left behind by 19th-century Span-
ish and Mexican vaqueros during the islands' ranching heyday, Hawaiians returned them and invented a musical

style of great breadth and emo-
tion that has a renewed energy
entering the 21st century.

Like American country
blues, slack key relies upon
"open" tunings, wherein the
guitar is tuned to a major
chord (such as the open-G taro
patch tuning), seventh chord
(wahine), or in fifths, like a
mandolin (mauna loa).

Ornamentation is added by
use of fingerstyle techniques
such as hammer-ons, pull-offs
and harmonics, creating a
chiming, ethereal vibe perfect
as a backdrop to Hawaiian-lan-
guage lyrics. Tuning and tech-

See SLACK KEY, Page C5

CONCERT & WORKSHOP

What: George Kahumoku Jr. slack-key guitar concert
Where: Temple Bar, 984 University Ave., Berkeley
When: 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 23. Doors open at 6 p.m.
How much: \$17
Contact: 510-524-6403
Also: George Kahumoku Jr. will conduct a slack-key workshop at 3 p.m. Nov. 23 at Temple Bar. \$35

RECORDINGS, VIDEO

Want to know more about slack key guitar? Some suggestions:
Albums:
"Punahale" by Ray Kane (\$16.98), and "Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Mas-
series" (series, \$11.98-\$16.98). All by Dancing Cat Records.
Video:
"Ki ho 'alu: That's Slack Key Guitar" (\$29.99, Vestapol video, 1990).

His legacy assured, Hillman keeps playing



ONE OF THE FOUNDERS of the Byrds, Chris Hillman teams with Herb Pedersen on duet country singing and bluegrass.

By Paul Freeman
CORRESPONDENT

He's been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, but Chris Hillman is a bluegrass player at heart.

An original member of the Byrds, the Flying Burrito Brothers and the Desert Rose Band, Hillman performs at the Freight on Monday night with longtime collaborator Herb Pedersen. Expect a stirring evening of mandolin, guitar and duet vocals.

An East Bay visit revives fond memories for Hillman: "I grew up in San Diego County and there weren't a lot of people playing bluegrass mandolin down there," Hillman says. "At 17, I got on the train, came to Berkeley and looked up Scott Hamby, who was a pretty well-known player then. I had seen him fill in with the Ken-

PREVIEW

■ WHO: Chris Hillman, with Herb Pedersen
■ WHEN: 8 p.m. Monday
■ WHERE: Freight & Salvage, 1111 Addison St., Berkeley
■ HOW MUCH: \$16.50 advance/\$17.50 door
■ CONTACT: 510-548-1761, www.thefreight.org

place in Hillman's heart, as it does with Pedersen. Hillman explains, "Herb grew up there. His father was a Berkeley city policeman. Herb's played the Freight quite a bit with his band, the Laurel Canyon Ramblers. I've played it once as a solo.

"I'm just glad that the Freight is still open, still presenting this diversified schedule of acoustic music. It's really starting to catch on again. It appeals to people in my age group that grew up listening to folk music, then went into listening to the Beatles and Rolling Stones, etc., and now are sort of settled into their 50s. And an act like Nickel Creek makes it appealing to young people. I'm very encouraged. The Freight has such a history. It's a real treat to

venue for variety
So Berkeley holds a special
See HILLMAN, Page C5

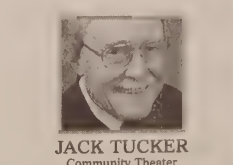
Play offers spirited family exploration

LOOKING FOR a quotation with an Italian flavor to begin a review of Joe Di Pietro's "Over the River and Through the Woods," I found this old wheeze — No. 284 to be exact — in "The Third and Possibly the Best 637 Best Things Anybody Ever Said" by Robert Byrne:

"The trouble with eating Italian food is that five or six days later you're hungry again."

The line would bring a rueful smile to 29-year-old Nick Cristiano, played by Dominick Marrone in the Ross Valley Players' production at the Barn Theatre in Ross.

Nick, whose Italian-American parents have retired to Florida, dutifully spends Sunday dinners with his two sets of dotting and clinging grandpar-
ents who still live in Hoboken,



JACK TUCKER Community Theater

N.J.

There's Frank Gianelli (Rob Hogan) and his wife Aida (Susan Suomi) on his mother's side. There's Nunzio Cristiano (Alex Ross) and his wife Emma (Linda Paplow) on his father's side. The four of them form a wonderful, believable ensemble.

They talk loud. They ramble as they search for the bits and pieces of endless, half-forgotten old remember-when stories. And they drive Nick up the wall with their smothering at-



PLAYERS in "Over the River and Through the Woods" include Laura Pederson-Schulz, Linda Paplow, Dominick Marrone and Susan Suomi. The Marin County production runs through Dec. 22.

tention and intrusive antics, especially when he is promoted to a job in Seattle.

Agghast, they scheme to keep him from moving by fixing him up with Caitlin O'Hare (Laura Pedersen-Schulz), a young Irish-American nurse who shows up for dinner one Sunday.

Food and hunger are metaphors. As a ritual, dinner binds the families and their grandson. But as the plot turns serious in Act II, this bonding turns toward bondage.

Hunger, in an emotional sense, is seen in the older folks' compelling appetite for traditional family convictions

See THEATER, Page C5

EVENTS

STAGE

AURORA THEATRE COMPANY — "Alarms and Excursions" by Michael Frayn, through Dec. 22. Eight short plays held together by the thread of modern technology. \$32 to \$38. Wednesdays through Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. 2081 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-843-4822 or www.auroratheatre.com

BERKELEY REPERTORY THEATRE — THE RODA THEATRE — "Haroun and the Sea of Stories" by Salman Rushdie, through Jan. 7. The extraordinary adventures of a young boy on a quest to help his father, a famed storyteller who has lost the ability to tell stories. Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Thursday and Sunday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. \$10 to \$54

"Menocchio," by Lillian Garret-Groag, through Dec. 22. The world premiere play about a miller tried during the inquisition for heresy. Nov. 22, Nov. 23, Nov. 29, Dec. 6, Dec. 13, Dec. 14 and Dec. 20, 8 p.m.; 7 p.m.; Nov. 30, Dec. 7, Dec. 12 and Dec. 21, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. \$42 to \$54; students and seniors half-off; \$16 under age 30. 2015 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-647-2949, 888-4BRTIX or www.berkeleyrep.org

CAL PERFORMANCES — "Medea," closing Nov. 24. A tale of spousal rage that spawns infanticide. \$36 to \$58. Through Nov. 22, 8 p.m.; Nov. 23, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Nov. 24, 3 p.m. Zellerbach Playhouse, University of California, Bancroft Way at Dana Court, Berkeley. 510-642-9898 or www.calperfs.berkeley.edu

CENTRAL WORKS — "Misanthrope" by Gary Graves, closing Nov. 30. Based on the classic comedy by Moliere about a man who hates the world. \$8 to \$18. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-558-1381

CONTRA COSTA CIVIC THEATRE — "The Rainmaker" by N. Richard Nash, closing Nov. 23. A traveling rainmaker brings rain and love to a parched town. \$15. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. 510-524-9132

MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE — "Gypsy," through Dec. 14. Based on the autobiography of famous burlesque queen Gypsy Rose Lee. \$12. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. 105 Park Place, Richmond. 510-232-4031 or www.masquers.org

SHOTGUN THEATRE — "The Play About the Baby" by Edward Albee, Nov. 23 through Dec. 28. A mysterious Man and Woman visit a young couple who may or may not have had a baby, and all strands of reality become unmoored. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 7 p.m. \$18 general; \$12 seniors and students; \$10 Thursdays.

La Val's Subterranean, 1834 Euclid, Berkeley. 510-704-8210, or www.shotgunplayers.org

TRANSPARENT THEATRE — "Eternity is in Love with the Productions of Time," through Dec. 8. A play drawing together the writings of poets and artists and examining the compulsion and courage that goes into making art. \$20. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Pay-What-You-Can Sundays, 7 p.m. NO SHOW NOV. 28. 1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. 510-883-0305 or www.transparenttheatre.org

WOMAN'S WILL — "The Importance of Being Earnest" by Oscar Wilde, closing Nov. 24. This all-female cast brings this trivial comedy for serious people to life. \$15 to \$25 general; \$12 students and seniors. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. The Pardee Home, 672 14th St., Oakland. 415-567-1758 or www.womanswill.org

WORD FOR WORD — "Cannery Row" by John Steinbeck, closing Dec. 1. A tale about the quirky denizens at a sardine-canning town and their adventures. \$25 adults; \$23 students and seniors. Wednesday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m. The Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. 925-798-1300.

POPULAR MUSIC

ASHKENAZ — The Swing Session Band, Nov. 22, 9:30 p.m. \$11. Zydeco Flames, Nov. 23, 9 p.m. \$11. Asheba, Nov. 24, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. \$4. Memorial Jam for Saa-Lyd Bahari, Nov. 24, 9:30 p.m. \$5. Swing Farm and Trout's Rustic Revels, Nov. 26, 8:30 p.m. \$10. Andrew Carrier and the Cajun Classics, Nov. 27, 8:30 p.m. \$8. Zulu Spear, Lutsing, Nov. 29, 9:30 p.m. \$10. Calypso Rose, Nov. 30, 9:30 p.m. \$15. All ages. Free admission for children 12 and under. 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-525-5054 or www.ashkenaz.com

BLAKE'S ON TELEGRAPH — Kooker and Hoomen, Nov. 22. \$6. Dank Man Shank, Lavish Green, The Pound, Nov. 23. \$6. Mystic Roots, Nov. 30. \$7. Mondays: The Steve Gannon Band, Mz. Dee. \$4. For ages 18 and older. Music at 9:30 p.m. 2367 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-0866

CATO'S ALE HOUSE — The Lost Trio, Nov. 24. Vince Wallace Trio, Nov. 27. Anton Schwartz, Dec. 1. Free. Music from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 3891 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. 510-655-3349 or www.mecato.com

DOWNTOWN — Hal Stein, Nov. 22. Rhonda Benin and Souful Strut, Nov. 29.

See EVENTS, Page C6

NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. The reviewers are Pat Craig, Randy Myers and Mary F. Pols. Times: Robert W. Butler and Chris Hewitt, Knight Ridder News-papers; Glenn Lovell, San Jose Mercury News; Anthony Breznican, David Germain, Christy Lemire, Tim Molloy, Sheila Norman-Culp, Jocelyn Noveck, Malcolm Ritzer and Matt Wolf, Associated Press; Bruce Westbrook, Houston Chronicle; Jan Stuart, Newsday; Stephen Holden, Dave Kehr, Elvis Mitchell, A.O. Scott and Lawrence Van Gelder, New York Times; Evan Henson, Valerie Kulkenski, Fred Shuster, Bob Strauss and Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Manohla Dargis, Kevin Thomas and Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times; Nancy Churnin, Greg Dowell, Tom Mastrand, Chris Vognar and Philip Wuntch, Dallas Morning News; Christopher Kelly and Robert Philpot, Fort Worth Star-Telegram; and Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel; Joe Batake, Sacramento Bee; Ann Hornaday and Stephen Hunter, Washington Post.

"AUTO FOCUS": The sordid story of sitcom star Bob Crane, who starts the movie as a squeaky clean father of three and ends up bludgeoned to death in a hotel room after a decade of intense sexual debauchery. Greg Kinnear is brilliant as Crane, and so is Willem Dafoe, playing the video nerd who acts as Crane's conduit into promiscuous sex and pornography. Director Paul Schrader's film is smart, nonjudgmental in its own way, and for a fan of "Hogan's Heroes," riveting. But there's a hollowness to this whole affair, and we're left with the sense that all Schrader really wanted to tell us is that sometimes a perv is just a perv. — M. Pols. (R: strong sexuality, nudity, language, some drug use and violence.) 1 hour, 47 minutes. **B**

"BOWLING FOR COLUMBINE": Just hours before they killed a dozen classmates and a teacher at Columbine High School, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold went bowling. Was there a connection? Is it logical to blame the sport or, for that matter, any single thing for America's violent nature? "Bowling for Columbine" doesn't have the answers, and really doesn't expect to find them. For documentary writer-director Michael Moore, the asking is what's important. Moore starts "Bowling" with some riffs on the state he grew up in, Michigan, "a gun lover's paradise." Next the film concentrates on the shootings at Columbine High in Littleton, Colo. We see chilling footage of the massacre from the school's security camera tapes, talk to "South Park" co-creator Matt Stone, once a Littleton resident, and find out that Lockheed Martin, one of the world's

OPENING TODAY

"DIE ANOTHER DAY" (PG-13) The new James Bond movie, featuring Pierce Brosnan and Halle Berry as the latest Bond babe.

"EL CRIMEN DEL PADRE AMARO" (R)

A recently ordained priest (Gael Garcia Bernal) moves to a small Mexican town, where he struggles with his attraction to a devout young girl and his realization that the town's aging priest is corrupt.

"THE EMPEROR'S CLUB" (PG-13)

Kevin Kline plays a stuffy but devoted classics teacher at a boys prep school who unwittingly learns something of his own moral character while trying to instill personal ethics in the troubled son of a rich politician.

"FRIDAY AFTER NEXT" (R)

The third in the popular Ice Cube comedy series, set within the holiday season.

"INTERVIEW WITH THE ASSASSIN" (NR)

An out-of-work cameraman interviews a man who claims he was the real gunman who killed JFK, then tries to figure out whether he's got the biggest story of his career on his hands or a huge lie.

"LOVE IN THE TIME OF MONEY" (NR)

Steve Buscemi stars in this variation on the play "Reigen" as nine

New Yorkers' lives intersect.

OPENS WEDNESDAY

"ADAM SANDLER'S 8 CRAZY NIGHTS" (PG-13)

Davey Stone (voice of Adam Sandler) wants to make sure that no one in the town of Dukesberry enjoys the holidays in this animated comedy.

"ARARAT" (R)

This controversial film-within-a-film looks at how the 1915 slaughter of Armenians is affecting future generations. From director Atom Egoyan.

"EXTREME OPS" (PG-13)

Skiboards and snowboards, gathered to film a movie, are hunted down by a war criminal.

"SOLARIS" (PG-13)

George Clooney stars in this sci-fi film, a remake of a trippy Russian flick concerning a man who encounters his dead wife on a distant space station.

"TREASURE PLANET" (G)

Disney animated version of "Treasure Island"; this time it's set in space.

"WES CRAVEN PRESENTS THEM" (PG-13)

Prophetic nightmares plague folks.

largest arms manufacturers, is headquartered in the town. What does all this add up to? Certainly nothing conclusive. Moore's approach may be scattershot, so to speak, but he hits some targets. — K. Turan. (R: some violent images and language.) 1 hour, 59 minutes. **B**

"BROWN SUGAR": This romantic-comedy is a hip-hop love story. In

1984, Sidney is a little girl watching break-dancers showing off moves and rappers swapping lines on a street corner. Pulling her up to stand on a bench so she could see better is a little boy named Dre. Flash-forward to the present and Sidney (Sanaa Lathan) is a hip-hop journalist, and Dre (Taye Diggs) is a hip-hop producer. Since this is a romantic comedy, you know what to expect—something always almost happens but never quite does, because fate gets in the way. First Dre is getting married to a beautiful attorney (Nicole Ari Parker), and then Sidney is getting engaged to a handsome basketball player (Boris Kodjoe). Will they? Won't they? This movie uses hip-hop as a metaphor for love; for an ineffable en-

ergy that makes life worth living. — T. Mastrand. (PG-13: language, adult situations.) 1 hour, 49 minutes. **B**

"COMEDIAN": A pleasure-filled documentary about Jerry Seinfeld's return to his roots in stand-up comedy. Director Christian Charles and producer Gary Streiner follow Seinfeld from one comedy club to another for a year as he builds a new act from scratch. His story is juxtaposed with that of Orny Adams, an obnoxious young comedian ravenous for a taste of Seinfeld-style stardom. The film is a little too carefully crafted to feel absolutely truthful, but it is rich with food for thought about the pains of the creative process, the insecurities of artists and the meaning of success. Oh, and it's funny. — M. Pols. (R: language.) 1 hour, 21 minutes. **B+**

"8 MILE": A handsome version of the old American show-business dream story we all know and love so well. Eminem, displaying movie star charisma, stars as a character much like himself — a rapper who's trying to rise from a poor and rough background. We've seen this before — from "Saturday Night Fever" to

"Flashdance" — yet "8 Mile" is so well made, you can't help but get carried along. — M. Pols. (R: strong language, sexuality, some violence and drug use.) 1 hour, 58 minutes. **B**

"8 WOMEN": Young director Francois Ozon gathers some of the greatest actresses in French cinema — Catherine Deneuve, Fanny Ardant and Isabelle Huppert, to name a few — and doesn't know what the heck to do with them. The story is equal parts Agatha Christie and Douglas Sirk as eight women are stranded in an isolated country manor with the body of a dead man. Whodunit? Who cares!

The best part of the movie is marveling at the actresses on screen. Too bad the situations, dialogue and direction can't approach their talent. — M. Dargis. (R: some sexual content.) 1 hour, 53 minutes. **C**

"FAR FROM HEAVEN": Perhaps only one filmmaker a year finds a new way to make our mouths hang open. This year, it is writer/director Todd Haynes, who bravely attacks our ennui with the last weapon we might have expected, a Douglas Sirk-style overwrought melodrama right out of the repressed 1950s, complete with a Technicolor palette and a cheesy musical score. Julianne Moore stars as a gracious Connecticut housewife who discovers that her loving husband (Dennis Quaid) is actually gay. She tries to put her best pump forward, but her perfect suburban life keeps crumbling around her anyway. A blast of air, albeit deliberately stagnant, up the skirts of the moviegoing public. — M. Pols. (PG-13: mature thematic elements, sexual content, brief violence and language.) 1 hour, 47 minutes. **A**

"FEMME FATALE": After a long slump, director Brian De Palma ("Dressed to Kill," "Body Double") returns to his old tricks — and treats. This sily but stylish thriller starring Rebecca Romijn-Stamos and Antonio Banderas, is about a mysterious woman who's a jewel thief. There are triple crosses, quite a bit of violence and a surprise. It doesn't all add up, but what the heck: This is exquisite, entertaining trash. — B. Strauss. (R: violence, nudity, sex, language.) 1 hour, 54 minutes. **B**

"FOOD OF LOVE": David Leavitt's novel "The Page Turner" is adapted to the screen in this subtle, sophisticated drama. Eighteen-year-old Paul (Kevin Bishop), an aspiring concert pianist, is thrilled to be selected as page turner for the world-famous Richard Kennington (Paul Rhys) for a performance in Paul's hometown. A few months later, while vacationing with his mother, Pamela Porterfield (Juliet Stevenson), Paul and Richard cross paths in Barcelona. With her marriage broken up, Pamela begins

to relax and regain her equilibrium with the advent of Richard, who takes mother and son to dinner every evening and encourages her shopping excursions and self-pampering. Meanwhile, Paul and Richard are supposedly off sightseeing, but end up in Richard's hotel suite, in each other's arms. Across the board, the actors give multifaceted portrayals. An elegant work, "Food of Love" is as consistently engaging as it is revealing. — K. Thomas. (NR: complex adult situations, sexual themes but discreet presentation, some language.) 1 hour, 42 minutes. **B+**

"FRIDA": Salma Hayek and Alfred Molina give superb performances as, respectively, the legendary surrealist artist Frida Kahlo and muralist Diego Rivera in this bio-pic that captures the diverse flavors of Mexico and Manhattan during the first half of the 1900s. The film's cornerstone is the two artists' stormy, unconventional marriage. Hayek and Molina create a memorable portrait of a tormented but enduring partnership. The film's cameo performers, including Antonio Banderas, Geoffrey Rush, Edward Norton and Ashley Judd, are all good. Like the artists it celebrates, "Frida" is audacious and haunting. — P. Wuntch. (R: nudity, sexuality, language.) 2 hour, 2 minutes. **A-**

"GHOST SHIP": A salvage crew boards a ship that has been drifting, deserted since the 1960s, and encounters some ghosts who want them to stay, forever. Grotesquely gory, riddled with amateur special effects and dumb dialogue. And it's not even scary. Why Julianna Margulies ("ER") ever boarded this ship of fools is the most mysterious thing about this piece of trash. — M. Pols. (R: strong violence, gore, language and sexuality.) 1 hour, 28 minutes. **D-**

"HALF PAST DEAD": After Sascha (Steven Seagal) is shot several times, his heart stops for 22 minutes. When he recovers, he ends up in a maximum-security prison, with Nick Frazier (Ja Rule), a career criminal who has befriended him, and Lester (Bruce Weitz), who is something of a legend for having stolen \$200 million in gold bricks that has never been recovered. Lester is to be the first prisoner executed in the prison's new execution chamber. On hand for the big occasion is the Supreme Court justice who sentenced him. But there's this band of mercenaries, led by a psychotic killer (Morris Chestnut), that breaks into the place to abduct Lester. And when these bad guys decide to kidnap the justice, it's up to Sascha, Nick and the other prisoners to save the day. — J. Boyar. (PG-13: pervasive action violence, language and some sexual content.) 1 hour, 39 minutes. **D**

"HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS": Kids

won't be checking their watches at 160 minutes. Director Christopher Columbus' second installment, J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter, is bound to make a few kids late. School is back in session, dark forces are brewing, and there's a plan for saving the world. Just as we're about to have Muggle blood, we have a shudder — Hermione Granger saves the day. Just as we're about to have a well-cast as the first movie, we have a spiffy special effects, a thrilling by virtue of its subtlety, not to mention its subtlety. — M. Pols. (PG: scary movie, creature violence, some language.) 2 hours, 40 minutes. **A**

"HEAVEN": This dramatic comes to us with a very strong provenance, having originally intended as a film by the late great Polish director Krzysztof Kieslowski, creator of the "Colors" trilogy. After his death, the longtime writing partner, Krzysztof Tykwer ("Run Lola Run"), and his wife, Milla Jovovich, took over and handed it over to director Paolo Sorrentino. The film is an attempt to avenge his band's death through his plan backfires and she's in jail, where a policeman (Ricky Ribisi) falls in love with her. Morality play that's very much here, as Blanchett shows us, means to fully accept her fate. Time will tell whether "Heaven" stems from the memory of Kieslowski, or if it is a fresh affair. — M. Pols. (Scene of sexuality.) 1 hour, 42 minutes. **A-**

"I SPY": Two of Hollywood's best comic stars, Eddie Murphy and Owen Wilson, star in the

bleed big-screen version of the groundbreaking 1960s teen-comedy, which introduced the

Bill Cosby. Murphy is a

boxer, who, at the behest of

president, teams up with

spy Wilson to thwart

"evildoers" who have stolen

a visible plane from the

Unites. The script is a disaster, and

presses the extraordinary

both men, although not

Some fault also lies with

Wilson and Murphy

together, and both seem

yearning for a straight man

off. — M. Pols. (PG-13: violence, some sexual content, language.) 1 hour, 36 minutes. **D**

"Jackass: the movie": The

and raunchy MTV show

big screen debut with

Knoxville and company

less stunts that usually

injury. It's crude

FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Showtimes for Friday November 22

Adams Point

Act 1 and 2

2128 Center Street, Berkeley 510-843-3456

• **Bowling for Columbine** (R) 11, 12, 1:40, 4:20, 4:20, 5:20, 7, 8, 9:45.

Albany Twin

1115 Solano Ave. Albany 510-843-3456

• **Women** (R) 12, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10.

• **Frida** (R) 10:45, 1:30, 4:30, 7, 9:45.

California Theatre

2113 Kittredge St. Berkeley 510-843-3456

• **Mile** (R) 1:40, 4:10, 7:15, 9:30.

• **El Crimen del Padre Amaro** (R) 1:50, 4:20, 7, 9:40.

• **Punch-Drunk Love** (R) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30.

Chabot Space & Science Center

10000 Skyline Blvd, Oakland 510-336-7300

• **The Human Body** (Not Rated) 11:30, 2:30, 4:30, 8:30.

• **The Living Sea** (Not Rated) 3:30, 5:30.

• **Mysteries of Egypt** (Not Rated) 12:30.

Elmwood 3

2968 College Ave., Berkeley 510-649-0530

• **24 Hour Party People** (R) 4:35, 9:20.

• **Women** (R) 4:30, 9:20.

• **Femme Fatale** (R) 7.

• **Food of Love** (Not Rated) 7.

• **The Last Kiss** (R) 7:05.

• **Sweet Home Alabama** (PG-13) 4:45, 9:15.

Fine Arts Cinema

2451 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-848-1143

• **All the President's Men** (Not Rated) 7.

• **Click** (Not Rated) 9:35.

Renaissance Grand Lake Theatre

3200 Grand Avenue, Oakland 510-482-3556

• **Mile** (R) 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30.

• **Die Another Day** (PG-13) 12:45, 3:45, 7, 9:45.

• **Friday After Next** (R) 12, 2, 4:15, 6:15, 8:15, 10:15.

• **Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets** (PG) 12:30, 4, 7:30.

Jack London Cinema

160 Washington Oakland 510-433-1320

• **Die Another Day** (PG-13) 11:15, 12:15, 2:30, 3:15, 5:30, 6:45, 7:30, 8:30, 9:40, 10:30.

• **The Emperor's Club** (PG-13) 11:10, 1:45, 4:20, 7:10, 9:45.

• **Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets** (PG) 10:45, 11:30, 12, 12:30, 2:15, 3, 3:30, 4, 5:45, 6:30, 7, 9:15, 10.

• **Spy** (PG-13) 10:20.

• **The Ring** (PG-13) 11:35, 2:05, 4:45, 7:40, 10:15.

• **The Santa Clause 2** (G) 11:25, 2, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50.

Renaissance Oaks Theatre

1875 Solano Avenue, Berkeley 510-528-1836

• **Interview with the Assassin** (Not Rated) 7, 9.

• **Spike & Mike's Sick & Twisted Festival of Animation** 9:30.

• **Tully** (Not Rated) 7:15.

Parkway Theater

1834 Park Blvd., Oakland 510-814-2400

• **Auto Focus** (R) 9:45.

• **Brown Sugar** (PG-13) 6:30.

• **Comedian** (R) 9:15.

• **Sweet Home Alabama** (PG-13) 7.

Piedmont Theatre

4186 Piedmont Ave. Oakland 510-843-3456

• **Bowling for Columbine** (R) 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45.

• **Far from Heaven** (PG-13) 12, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10.

• **Frida** (R) 11:30, 2, 4:30, 7, 9:30.

Shattuck Cinemas

2230 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-843-3456

• **Far from Heaven** (PG-13) 12:10, 1, 2:35, 3:30, 5, 6, 7:30, 8:40, 10.

• **Jackass the movie** (R) 1:05, 3:20, 5:30, 7:45, 9:50.

• **Mostly Martha** (PG) 1:45, 4:20, 6:50, 9:25.

• **My Big Fat Greek Wedding** (PG) 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9.

• **Real Women Have Curves** (PG-13) 1:10, 3:15, 5:25, 7:40, 9:45.

• **Roger Dodger** (R) 2, 4:25, 7, 9:30.

• **Seven Samurai** (Not Rated) 12, 4:15, 8:30.

• **Spirited Away** (PG) 12:50, 3:45, 6:30, 9:20.

• **Standing in the Shadows of Motown** (PG-13) 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:55.

United Artists Berkeley

2274 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley 510-843-1487

• **Die Another Day** (PG-13) 12:15, 3:40, 7:05, 10:30.

• **The Emperor's Club** (PG-13) 1:55, 5, 7:55, 10:35.

• **Friday After Next** (R) 2, 4:55, 8, 10:40.

• **Half Past Dead** (PG-13) 12:30, 3:25, 7:10, 10:15.

• **Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets** (PG) 11:55, 1:25, 3:20, 4:50, 6:45, 8:15, 10:10.

• **The Ring** (PG-13) 12:25, 3:15, 7:15, 10:20.

United Artists Emery Bay 10

6330 Christie, Emeryville 510-420-0107

• **Mile** (R) 11:30, 2, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15.

• **Die Another Day** (PG-13) 12, 12:45, 3:30, 4:15, 7, 7:45, 10, 10:45.

• **Friday After Next** (R) 11:45, 12:30, 2:15, 3, 4:45, 5:30, 7:15, 8, 9:45, 10:30.

• **Half Past Dead** (PG-13) 11:30, 2:15, 5, 7:45, 9:45.

• **Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets** (PG) 11:55, 12:15, 1:25, 3:20, 3:40, 4:50, 6:45, 7:05, 8:15, 10:10, 10:30.

• **The Ring** (PG-13) 11:45, 2:30, 5:15, 8, 10:45.

Central Contra Costa

4 Orinda Theatre Sq., Orinda 925-254-9060

• **Frida** (R) 1, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45.

• **Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets** (PG) 12:30, 4, 7:30.

• **The Santa Clause 2** (G) 11:45, 2, 4:30, 7, 9:30.

Renaissance Park Theatre

Theater

...abilities they see slip-
...hangers for in-
...and advancing his

...Wilson directs this high
...that is, by turns, hi-
...sobering.

...anager Ken Rowland
...have achieved a just-
...black-and-white set
...makes the viewer feel right

...the sounds familiar, it's
...ing of a poem,
...showing Day," by Lydia

...of the line — sorry
...all you grandmas out
...to grandfather's

...over the River and Through
...woods" plays at 8 p.m. Fri-
...Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sun-
...Dec. 8, 15 and 22, through

...Tickets are \$17 general,
...\$25 (62-plus) and
...\$4 and under). Call 415-

CANNERY ROW GETS
...fresh from its run at
...theater's Magic Theatre,
...theater's presentation of

...theater's "Cannery Row
...opened last
...theater's Morgan Center

...theater's 2840 College Ave.,
...theater's

...theater's show continues this
...at 8:30 p.m., then at
...theater's Wednesday

...theater's Saturdays and 5 p.m.
...theater's through Dec. 1. No per-
...theater's Thanksgiving Day.

...theater's Tickets are \$25, with dis-
...theater's counts for seniors and students.
...theater's Wednesday shows are pay-

...theater's pay-on-call. Call 415-437-
...theater's

...theater's nights include a post-
...theater's discussion with Steinbeck
...theater's

...theater's those still unfamiliar with
...theater's the word, this is a theater
...theater's with a unique slant on

...theater's presentations. It takes
...theater's of classic and contempo-
...theater's ration — not in play form

...theater's and evens the written
...theater's of the author's language.
...theater's though known for its ver-

...theater's saging of short stories,
...theater's the word from time to
...theater's will turn to one or several

...theater's with the hope that the
...theater's the word will be inspired to ex-
...theater's the rest.

...theater's and deceptively simple,
...theater's "Cannery Row," perhaps Stein-
...theater's Stein-

...theater's novel, is set amid
...theater's the canneries of the Mon-
...theater's Peninsula during the De-

...theater's cades. Its characters, some
...theater's duzillions of Lee
...theater's Lee's grocery store, Doc's lab

...theater's and the boys' Palace Flop-
...theater's and Dora Flood's Flor-

...theater's we've enjoyed their sto-
...theater's can now see the char-
...theater's brought to life by the

...theater's the word cast, including
...theater's Patricia Silver,
...theater's Brian Keith Russell,

...theater's Mark Phillips,
...theater's Dave Chavez, Adrian Elfen-
...theater's and Beatie Pompa and Re-

...theater's "Cannery Row" is directed by
...theater's Langer Crews.

WATGUN TRIGGERS
...theater's Scottgun Players has
...theater's a camp — not surprising

...theater's the West Coast premiere
...theater's Albee's "The Play
...theater's and the Baby" opening this

...theater's at La Vela's Subter-
...theater's Theatre, 1834 Euclid, in
...theater's What is surprising is

...theater's this play, for us
...theater's that made its debut only
...theater's in New York in what

...theater's called "unquestionably
...theater's an event of the Off-Broad-

...theater's story. A mysterious man
...theater's visit a young couple
...theater's newborn. Or is it

...theater's Do the boy and girl even
...theater's each other? Are the visi-

The history of the Temple Bar

Two major earthquakes figure in the history of Berkeley's Temple Bar. The first involves its ornately carved back bar, made in Philadelphia in 1849. Headed for South America on a clipper ship that was blown off course a few years later, it ended up in a Chinatown warehouse until someone took inventory after the 1906 earthquake. It became a part of the Sutter Street hotel, the original location of the Temple Bar in 1907.

The Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989 caused significant damage to the building that housed the bar, so owners Kem and Rosalyn Loong moved it across the bay, to the University Avenue site where they've been

promoting Hawaiian culture since 1990.

Uncle Kem keeps busy, teaching ukulele workshops to as many as 30 students each Tuesday evening. He is also facile on the steel guitar, and you're just as likely to find him onstage with Rosalyn as in the kitchen or behind the bar.

The bar is open the first Sunday of each month for "Aloha Sunday," featuring Huli-Huli Charbroiled Chicken, Pan-Loi Sirloin, Chicken Long Rice, Kalua Loco Moco Beef Patties and Lomi-Lomi Salmon. But if they're out of your favorite, just wait a few minutes. Uncle Kem will be right with you, once he's finished singing.

— Brian Kluepfel

Hillman

FROM PAGE C3

come up and play there."

Hillman and Pedersen have a history together that dates back 40 years. They recently released a rousing roots album titled "Way Out West" (Back Porch Music).

"It's a very brotherly relationship. We have a lot in common," Hillman says. "We both share that love of bluegrass and duet country singing. He's a great guy to work with and a great musician. It's like the Everly Brothers or the Louvin Brothers to me. It just works."

"With the familiarity, I know where he's going to go vocally. He knows where I'm going to go. We switch the parts around. Not to downgrade anything I've been involved in, but I'm having more fun now than I've ever had before."

Hillman's parents were jazz buffs. "They had great taste. They listened to Basie and Ellington. So I was exposed to really good music growing up. I got attracted to hillbilly music in the '50s — Spade Cooley and Hank Williams and Lefty Frizzell. I

would watch the live country shows that came out of Los Angeles. My father thought I was out of my mind. He would say, 'Are you my son? Why are you listening to that stuff?'"

Bluegrass attraction

His older sister got him into roots rock and folk. But bluegrass remained a passion. "When I heard it, it caught me. It was that energetic, improvisational approach. Yeah, it was predictable stuff. But that high energy just hit a nerve in me."

As a teen, Hillman became a professional player. "The glamour of being a musician wears thin. The tough part of the career I chose was always the traveling. But those couple of hours on stage, when everything works, is the greatest feeling. You're really soaring. When you connect on a vocal thing, it's a pretty indescribable feeling."

In 1964, Hillman soared with the Byrds, a group that countless bands credit as a primary influence. "That's the greatest thing about it — the legacy we left. It was like we handed it off to someone else. That's really a high compliment, when you hear the newer bands incorporating

Slack key

FROM PAGE C3

nique are part of each performer's idiosyncrasies: some recent greats include Sonny Chillingworth, George Kuo, and Ledward Kaapana, while pioneer aliances include Ray Kane, Auntie Alice Namakelua, and probably the most revered player of all, Philip "Gabby" Pahinui.

Once the tunings of slack key were closely-guarded tribal secrets, Kane, one of the genre's masters, said, "the guy who taught me said 'no' at first because I wasn't his 'ohana,' his family." Kane convinced him to swap lessons for fresh fish, and has gone on to legendary status.

One of the current slack-key masters is George Kahumoku, Jr. who will be playing in

Berkeley Saturday night. Kahumoku understands the family connection well. His father, George Sr., was a master of right-hand ornamentation (Ki Panipani style), and his son Keoko is also quite a player, holding joint workshops with dad. George also recorded three albums with his brother Moses in the 1980s.

Kahumoku's music has also reached out to the broader Hawaiian family: he wrote music for the film "Onipa'a," which deals with issues that have affected Native Hawaiians since the 1893 overthrow of Queen Lili'uokalani, a great songwriter in her own right. Playing several of Lili'uokalani's songs in the film inspired George to release his first solo album, "E Lili'u," a tribute to the Queen and her music.

Kahumoku's local connection is with the California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, where he earned a BFA. He now lives on Maui where he's involved in native Hawaiian language teaching programs and farming. Hawaii's "Renaissance Man" has twice been awarded the Na Hoku Hanohano Award, the islands' most prestigious music prize.

George is practically family to the Temple Bar. "We have a lot in common," said Temple Bar proprietor "Uncle" Kem Loong. "He's a farm boy, and I was born and raised on a farm on Kauai. He's from the same island as my parents."

Brian Kluepfel is a freelance journalist who has lived in the 'burbs, the Bronx, Bolivia, and Berkeley. He can be reached at bkluepfel@hotmail.com.

Studio to frontman

After the Burritos, Hillman joined Stephen Stills in Manassas. Then came Souther-Hillman-Furay, a supergroup assembled by David Geffen in '74. Hillman subsequently teamed with former Byrd mates Roger McGuinn and Gene Clark in a trio format. He also became a prominent studio musician.

In '86, Hillman was ready to serve as a genuine frontman. Selecting an amazing array of musicians, including Pedersen and guitar whiz John Jorgensen, he formed the Desert Rose Band.

"That was the culmination of all of it for me. I was a very shy kid when I started in music. By the time I'd gotten through the Burritos, Manassas and all of that, when Desert Rose hit, it was my baby. It was great players, great singers. And it was the one band in which we parted company amicably, as friends."

The band lasted until '94, racking up awards and Top 10 country hits, such as "Love Reunited," "One Step Forward" and "I Still Believe in You." But Hillman felt that, after 30 years on the road, it was time to take a breather.

"I'd missed so many of my kids' birthdays. My priority was my family. I had seen so many marriages break up. I have two children. So I'm a big proponent of family. You can cure a lot of society's ills in this country by just keeping the family together and communicating."

"Also, that was the time that all the hat acts and line dancing came into the Nashville scene. It was a completely different environment. The singer-songwriter thing had sort of gone away. But it's starting to come back now. Nashville's reassessing with the success of that 'O Brother' soundtrack."

Though he eschewed touring, Hillman continued recording. "I guess the more I say I'm retired, the more the phone rings. It works pretty well," he says with a laugh.

He hopes to record a new album soon. But the humble artist shrugs off his role in country-rock history. "I don't play rock star. I have a problem with people who have that kind of attitude. I look at it like this — I'm really a lucky kid. I wasn't the greatest player or singer in the world. But I've sure had a great time and I've survived it. I've had a lot of friends who didn't."

Reviews

FROM PAGE C5

and exactly what you'd expect. — S. Norman-Gulp. (R: dangerous sometimes extremely crude stunts, language and nudity.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. D

"THE LAST KISS" ("L'Ultimo Bacio"): This lively Italian movie is being billed as a romantic comedy. Harumph. There's certainly romance, and some comedy, but this is closer to a brutal war movie, set within the battle of the sexes. The soldiers on these front lines are a group of young marrieds and almost marrieds, doing hard-to-hand combat over issues of commitment, fidelity and responsibility. Our so-called 29-year-old hero, Stefano, is bored with his pregnant girlfriend, so he starts a flirtation with a luscious but vapid high school student. Writer/director Gabriele Muccino's take on relationships is acute and refreshingly honest, but so scathing that it may make most of the audience feel like kissing off dating altogether. — M. Pols. (R: language, sexuality and some drug use.) 1 hour, 57 minutes. (In Italian, with English subtitles.) B

"MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING": Toulia (Nia Vardalos) is considered a freak of nature in the Chicago Greek community because she's still single at 30. While working at her father's restaurant, she waits on a guy who's so gorgeous, he paralyzes her with awe — then inspires her to undergo a makeover. Ian (John Corbett), a high school teacher, falls for her, too. Her Old-Country parents don't approve of him at first; his WASPy parents treat her like she's from another planet. But because both families want their children to be happy, you know everything will work out in the end. Vardalos and Corbett together are likeable enough to make this movie more tolerable than the average romantic comedy. — C. Lemire. (PG: sensuality and language.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. C+

"PUNCH-DRUNK LOVE": The latest from the highly talented young writer/director Paul Thomas Anderson ("Magnolia," "Boogie Nights") purports to be a love story, but it's more interesting, and successful, as a portrait of rage, American-style.

Barry (Adam Sandler, in gag casting that works) is a sad but hopeful salesman, saddled with seven mean sisters who treat him like the Ken doll they never loved. Prone to fits of rage, Barry softens when he meets Lena (Emily Watson), an Englishwoman inexplicably drawn to him. Sandler is excellent, but Barry's transition to emotional wholeness isn't entirely believable. Who knows? Maybe that's Anderson's point. Either way, he's created a movie that punches away at you long after it's gone. — M. Pols. (R: strong language, including a scene of sexual dialogue.) 1 hour, 37 minutes. A-

"REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES": The real woman here is Ana (newcomer America Ferrera), a recent (and pretty) high school grad quite proud of her ample proportions. Ana has been commuting from her home in East Los Angeles to the ritzy confines of Beverly Hills High School; she wants to go to college, but there's a formidable obstacle in her way. Ana's mom, Carmen (Lupe Ontiveros), believes that slenderness and marriage should be a woman's only goals. Carmen enlists Ana to work in the family-run garment factory, unwilling to let her daughter enter the modern world or, heaven forbid, be happy. This film is sweet and sassy, but not afraid of conflict. Its ethnic milieu is genuine, therefore specific, but many of the themes are universal. — C. Vognar. (PG-13: language, mild sexual content.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. B

"THE RING": The film starts with two teens talking about an urban legend — apparently, there's a videotape that, if watched, will induce your death exactly seven days later. One of the girls begins to panic; she watched that very tape, seven days earlier. Minutes later, she's dead. So are the three friends with whom she watched the tape. Naomi Watts plays Rachel, a Seattle newspaper reporter on the trail of this mystery. She watches the tape, she lets her ex-lover (Martin Henderson) watch the tape and then — parental supervision not being her strong suit — she lets her son (David Dorfman) watch the tape. Can you say "Race against the clock"? The Ring is directed in an essentially realistic style. For all of its

spooky imagery, it's too conventional to ever get under our skin. — C. Kelly. (R: thematic elements, disturbing images, language and some drug references.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. C-

"ROGER DODGER": A sharply observed reconnaissance tour of the land of cads, in which the attractive Manhattanite Roger (Campbell Scott) prowls, leers, displays increasingly bawdy behavior and is ultimately brought down by a dart gun loaded with the ammunition of wistful innocence. His teenage nephew, Nick (Jesse Eisenberg), on a college tour of New York but really on a quest to unload his virginity with his womanizer uncle's help, supplies the innocence. The female supporting characters are very well done, including Jennifer Beals and Elizabeth Berkley as a pair of bar-crawlers who find Nick more appealing than his bitter uncle, and Isabella Rossellini as Roger's thoroughly modern boss, who uses him for sex and dumps him as soon as he becomes tedious. A strong debut for writer/director Dylan Kidd. — M. Pols. (R: sexual content and language.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. B+

"THE SANTA CLAUSE 2": In the original film, Tim Allen played Santa Calvin, a divorced, disgruntled and sardonically funny dad who was shown that he had the potential to be Santa. The magical suit helped. But the real magic was seeing how taking on the responsibility for the whole world's holiday cheer can change a person. This sequel brings Allen back as a Santa who still has personal problems. His son, Charlie (Eric Lloyd), has landed on the "naughty" list after drawing graffiti on school walls. And it turns out there was a "Mrs." clause in the original Santa "clause" that put him in his position: He's got to find a wife before Christmas Eve or he loses all his powers. As with so many sequels, many of the effects are bigger, grander and prettier. And anyone who has ever dreamed of a Santa who knows your heart's desire should feel a little tug at the heart when Santa's own dreams come true. — N. Churnin. (G) 1 hour, 38 minutes. B

"SECRETARY": Romance blooms between a secretary (Maggie Gyllenhaal) who craves physical pain and a boss (James Spader) who

enjoys inflicting it. Ninety percent of you just said "I'm out." But wait: Director Steven Soderbergh's weird little film, an adaptation of a Mary Gaitskill story, while not for more delicate audiences, has much to offer. For one thing, the remarkable performance of Gyllenhaal. And then there's the movie's nonjudgmental eroticism, likely to extend a leather-clad glove to tap any number of sexual nerds on the shoulder and send unexpected and embarrassing arousal down their upright spines. — M. Pols. (R) 1 hour, 44 minutes. B+

"SPIRITED AWAY": The latest from Japanese animation master Hayao Miyazaki ("Princess Mononoke," "My Neighbor Totoro") Miyazaki wrote, directed and did much of the animation for this tale of a 10-year-old girl who accidentally wanders, with her parents, into a spirit world. The adults are promptly turned into a pair of plump pigs. To save them from becoming bacon, the girl must first learn to fend for herself. Miyazaki creates a dreamy visual world that resonates with poignancy, vibrant color and humor, delicately and unobtrusively interwoven with political and social themes, including the Japanese work ethic. Technically for children, but equally enchanting for adults, especially those who value stunning

animation. — M. Pols. (PG: some scary moments.) 2 hours, 4 minutes. A

"STANDING IN THE SHADOWS OF MOTOWN": The Funk Brothers were the legendary house band of Motown Records. For decades, the dozen or so keyboardists, guitarists, bassists, drummers and percussionists who created Motown's signature sounds in a tiny basement studio have been living — sometimes dying — in obscurity. Documentary filmmaker Paul Justman, working with Alan Slutsky's 1989 book about the group, has rectified that historical slight with a soaring cinematic love letter to the prodigiously gifted session cats who, in Justman's words, were "the greatest hit machine in the history of pop music." — A. Hornaday. (PG: language) 1 hour, 45 minutes. B-

"TULLY": Some quietly moving moments and an intelligent subtlety distinguish this earnest independent feature. Set in a small Nebraska town during one pivotal summer, the film stars Aniston Mount as a womanizer who is forced into confronting key issues involving his family. Tully's quiet brother Earl (Glenn Fitzgerald) and Earl's friend (Julianne Nicholson) figure into the story, which is based on an O. Henry story. The cast is first-rate, but the film does have a first-timer feel. — M. Pols (NR) 1 hour, 42 minutes. B-

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Mann

FROM PAGE C3

gad was three-time mayor of Baltimore). The Post story credited Pelosi with engineering Brown's upset 1976 Maryland Democratic primary win.

The Post piece also reminded readers that long-time House speaker Tip O'Neil was a "Massachusetts liberal," and quotes Pelosi as saying that the GOP's derogatory term for her, "San Francisco liberal" — get used to hearing it — refers not

to Democratic social programs. "No," she says, "they are talking about gay people." In code, of course. And she's right.

■ ■ ■

And finally, speaking of right-wing Republicans, it's bad enough that KPXX weatherman Brian Sussman said it in the first place. But then he proudly repeated this the other day when he filled in as host of the morning show on conservative KFSO Radio: Sussman called late Minnesota Sen. Paul Wellstone a "Communist," heartlessly adding, "the political

landscape is better off without him."

Good going, Suss. I have to wonder how Channel 5's management feels about having the station's smiling 11:00 forecaster — "Suss" also hosted a show on local conservative Christian radio station "The Bridge" — spreading this kind of nastiness around on the radio. I can't imagine they're too thrilled about it.

Questions? Comments? E-mail Bill at Newsman@sonic.net



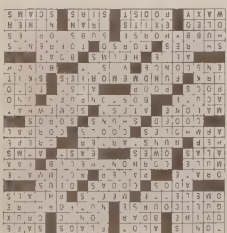
The healing kind

JEFFREY HALFORD is not your average roots rocker. Forget the notion of she-done-me-wrong tunes with meandering guitar solos. Instead, the Bay Area singer-songwriter-musician uses evocative slide stylings and storytelling lyrics to convey his take on American mythology. With an acclaimed new album "Hunkpapa" (named for tribe of Sioux Indians) behind him, Halford and his band, the Healers, stop in at Albany tonight. Halford and the Healers headline at the Ivy Room, 858 San Pablo Ave., Albany. Music starts around 10 p.m. Cover charge is \$5. Call 510-525-9220.

Events

FROM PAGE C3

Leftover Dreams with Patrice Hahn and Tony Marcus, Nov. 30.
Free, Thursday, 8:30 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 9:30 p.m. 2102 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-649-3810
FREIGHT AND SALVAGE — Marley's Ghost, Nov. 22. \$15.50 to \$16.50
Laway Smith and her Red Hot Skillet Lickers, Nov. 23. \$15.50 to \$16.50
Lowen and Navarro, Nov. 24. \$15.50 to \$16.50
Chris Hillman and Herb Pederson, Nov. 25. \$16.50 to \$17.50.
Gerry Tenney and California Klezmer, Nov. 27. \$15.50 to \$16.50.
Laurie Lewis, Tom Rozum, Todd Sickafosse, Nov. 29 and Nov. 30. \$17.50 to \$18.50
The Bobs, Dec. 1. \$17.50 to \$18.50.
Music starts at 8 p.m. 1111 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-548-1761 or 510-762-BASS or www.freightandsalvage.org
LA PENNA CULTURAL CENTER — Junior Courtney Big Band, Nov. 22, 8 p.m. \$12 to \$14.
O-Maya, Nov. 23, 8:30 p.m. \$15 general; \$12 students.
Domingo de Rumba, Nov. 24, 3:30 p.m. Quimbombo, Nov. 30, 9:30 p.m. \$10 to \$13
Vocolot, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m. \$16 to \$18.
Free, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568 or www.lapenna.org
924 GILMAN STREET — Pretty Girls Make Graves, J.R. Ewing, Hint Hint, Nov. 22
Embrace the End, Scissorhands, Damage Done, For the Crown, Allegiance, Nov. 23
For all ages. Shows are \$5 unless otherwise noted. Shows begin at 8 p.m. and Sunday shows at 5 p.m. 924 Gilman St., Berkeley. 510-525-9926
PARAMOUNT THEATER — Beck, The Flaming Lips, Nov. 26 and Nov. 27, 8 p.m.
\$35.75, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 925-685-TIXS, 510-625-TIXS, 415-421-TIXS or www.ticketmaster.com
STARRY PLOUGH PUB — Victoria Williams, Mark Olson and the Creek Dippers, Nov. 22. \$12.
David Allen's University of Errors, Vacuum Tree Head, Nov. 23. \$8.
Fleeting Trance, Savant Guard, Groove.org, Nov. 29. \$5
Holiday Matinee's "Can You Hear Me Now" Tour, Nov. 30. \$8.
Sundays: The Starry Irish Music Session, Sliding scale.
Mondays, Dance Class and Celli. Free.
Free. For ages 21 and over unless otherwise noted. Sunday and Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082.



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NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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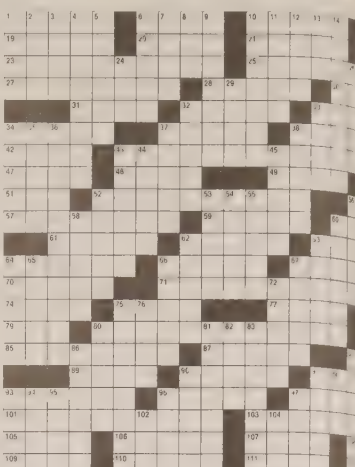
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ley. 510-549-3864.

DANCE

EAGLES HALL ZYDECO CAJUN DANCES — Dance lesson, 8 p.m.; concert and dance, 9 p.m. \$11 to \$13. 2305 Alameda Ave., Alameda. 415-285-6285 or edesimone.home.mind-spring.com/Eagles/content-eagles.html
STARRY PLOUGH PUB — "Dance Class & Celli," Mondays, 7 p.m. Traditional Irish music and dance.
"The Starry Session," Sundays, 8 p.m. Irish traditional music and song led by Shay Black. Sliding scale.
For age 21 and over. Dance lesson at 7 p.m., music at 9 p.m. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082.

OUTDOORS

CRAB COVE VISITOR CENTER — "Ridgeline Wonders," Nov. 23, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Explore the past, present and future of Oakland. Ages 7 and up.
"Amazing Insects," Nov. 23, 11 a.m. to noon. Explore the insect world. Ages 3 to 5.
"Cattails and Turtles," Nov. 24, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Explore the watery world of the pond and its inhabitants.
"Amphibian Ambles," Nov. 24, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Search for newts, salamanders and banana slugs on this easy one-mile amble. Ages 4 and up.
"Family Wake-up Walk," Nov. 29, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Wake yourself and your family up with a leisurely stroll along Alameda's coastline.
"Closing Day," Nov. 30, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Say good-bye to Crab Cove

closes for the winter with nature tales, exhibits and hikes.
Free unless noted otherwise. CLOSED NOV. 28. Registration required. 1252 McKay Ave., Alameda. 510-521-6887
CREEKSIDE PARK — Free. Claremont Drive and Crescent, Brentwood. 925-757-2620 or www.ebparks.org
DUNSMUIR HOUSE AND GARDENS HISTORIC ESTATE — Nestled in the Oakland hills, the 40-acre Dunsmuir House and Gardens estate includes the 37-room Neoclassical Revival Dunsmuir Mansion, built by coal and lumber baron Alexander Dunsmuir for his bride. Restored outbuildings set amid landscaped gardens surround the mansion.
"The Holiday Season at Dunsmuir 2002," Nov. 29 through Dec. 15. Tour the decorated mansion, carol shop for holiday cards and gifts and ride a horse-drawn carriage. Friday through Sunday.
"The Holiday Soiree," Dec. 5, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. The premier fund-raising event. \$150.
Tours of the Mansion, Wednesday, 11 a.m. to noon. Docents will lead visitors on a guided tour of the 37-room mansion and the estate's historic landscaping. Wear low-heeled shoes; no high heels allowed in the mansion \$5 general; \$4 seniors, free children age 13 and under.
GROUNDS — The 50 acres of gardens and grounds at the mansion are open to the public. Free Self-Guided Grounds Tour maps are available at Dinkelspiel House. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free.

Dunsmuir House and Gardens Historic Estate, 2960 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland. 925-275-9490 or 510-615-5555 or www.dunsmuir.org
EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT — Free unless otherwise noted. Call for location of events. 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland. 510-635-0135 or www.ebparks.org
OAKLAND ZOO — The zoo includes a Children's Petting Zoo, the Skyride, a miniature train, a carousel, picnic grounds and a gift shop as well as the animals in site-specific exhibits, which allow them to roam freely. Included are "The African Savanna" with its two huge mixed-animal aviaries and 11 African Savanna exhibits; the Mahali Pa Tembo (Place of the Elephant) with African lions, giraffes, chimpanzees and more than 330 other animals from around the world; "Simba Port," Swahili for "Lion Country," a spacious 1.5-acre habitat offering both a savanna and woodland setting for African lions; "Footprints from the Past," an anthropology exhibit showcasing 4 million years of human evolution and an actual "footpath" of the first hominids to emerge from the African savanna. "Sun Bear Exhibit," a state-of-the-art space the zoo has developed for its two sun bears; and

Siamang Island, a state-of-the-art free area that emulates the native tropical rain forest.
"Zooflights Opening Night" through Jan. 4, 5:30 p.m. annual holiday light display. \$7.50 general; \$4.50 seniors; children age 2 to 14, free. Open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 28. Daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 924 Gilman St., Berkeley. 510-525-9926 or www.oaklandzoo.org
USS POTOMAC — The 18th-century yacht USS Potomac, "Floating White House," was refurbished at the beginning of World War II for use by President Delano Roosevelt, host to his World War II splendor.
Docksides Tours, ongoing. Potomac at the dock approximately 45 minutes. Tours when weather is bad are subject to cancellation. If the weather is rainy, tours are Friday, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. \$10 general; \$5 seniors; \$1 youths age 12 and under.

See EVENTS, Page C6

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EVENTS

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\$3 general; \$2 seniors; \$1 children; free on Thursday. Through Sept. 2: Daily, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; closed the first Tues- day of every month for maintenance. Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley, 510-643-2755 or www.mlp.berkeley.edu/garden
WILDCAT CANYON REGIONAL PARK — Free. Contra Costa County north of El Cerrito. 510-636-1684 or www.sbparks.org

EXHIBITS

ARDENCY GALLERY — Frank Haines and Tonya Solley Thornton, closing Nov. 30. An exhibition of installation and mixed media works.
Free. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 709 Broadway, Oak- land. 510-636-0831 or www.ardencyart.com
BERKELEY ART CENTER — "Threads: Artists Who Use Stitching to Convey Ideas," through Dec. 15. An exhibition of stitched art by five artists.
Free. Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. 1275 Walnut St., Berkeley, 510-644-6893
CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF ARTS AND CRAFTS — "Reality Check: Painting in the Exploded Field," through Dec. 14. An exhibition of large-scale works by seven artists.
Free. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Oliver Art Center, 5212 Broad- way, Oakland. 415-551-9210 or www.watts.org
CRAFT AND CULTURAL ARTS GALLERY — "Art of Eastern Cuba," through Dec. 27. An exhibition of art from various Cuban artists.
Free. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. State of California Office Build- ing Atrium, 1515 Clay St., Oakland. 510-238-6952 or www.oaklandnet.org
EAST BAY WOMEN ARTISTS — "Hidden Treasures," through Jan. 5. An exhibition of paintings, monotypes, photography and baskets by several artists.
Free. Royal Ground Gallery, 2058 Moun- tain Blvd., Oakland. 510-339-0348
GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION — "Infinite Knowledge: Veda and the Vedic Literature," through Dec. 19. A circular exhibit of mixed media instal- lations by Madeline de Joly.
Free. Monday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Flora Lamson Hewitt Library, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley, 510-649-2541 or www.gtu.edu
HALL OF PIONEERS GALLERY —

"Oakland Chinatown Pioneers," open- ended. Twelve showcases each focus- ing on historic leaders and personal- ities of the community.
Free. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Chinese Garden Building, 275 Seventh St., Oakland. 510-530-4590
KENNEDY ART CENTER GALLERY — "From Start to Finish," closing Nov. 24. An exhibition of works by Stan Dann. Free. Friday through Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Holy Names College, 3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. 510-436-1457

LANEY COLLEGE — WILLIAM HIGH MEMORIAL GALLERY — Richard Avril, through Dec. 13. An exhibition of photographs by the artist.
Free. Monday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Tues- day, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon and 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Laney Photo- graphy Department, Room A-178, 900 Fallon St., Oakland. 510-464-3585

OAKLAND ART GALLERY — "Art of Eastern Cuba," through Jan. 4. An ex- hibition of art from various Cuban artists.
Free. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 199 Kahn's Alley, Oakland. 510-637-0395 or www.oaklandcultur- alarts.org

OAKLAND GLASS ARTISTS HOLIDAY EXHIBIT AND SALE — Nov. 29. Nov. 30, Dec. 1 and Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. An exhibition of glass artwork from Bruce Pizzichello and Dan Gor- don.
Free. 2680 Union St., Oakland. 510-832-8380

PRO ARTS — "Box Art/Art Box," clos- ing Nov. 23. An exhibition of works by a variety of artists.
Free. Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 461 Ninth St., Oakland. 510-763-9425 or www.proartsgallery.org

TRAYWICK GALLERY — Jamie Brun- son, closing Nov. 31. An exhibition of new paintings by the artist.
— Rachel Davis, closing Nov. 30. An ex- hibition of new watercolors by the artist.
Free. Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1316 10th St., Berkeley. 510-527-1214 or www.traywick.com
UC BERKELEY BANCROFT LIBRARY — "Bear in Mind," closing Nov. 27. A chronicle of the brief but colorful his- tory of the bear as its California habi- tat became home to explorers, adven- turers, immigrants and others.
Free. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. UC Berkeley, 510-642-1595

GENERAL

CODY'S BOOKSTORES — TELE- GRAPH AVENUE — Ian Stewart, Nov. 26. The author reads from "Am- bushed: A War Reporter's Life on the Line."
POETRY AT CODY'S — 7:30 p.m. at Telegraph Avenue
Nov. 24: "Americas review," with Forest Hamer, Murray Silverstein, Judith Stronach and others
2454 Telegraph Ave. 510-845-7852

FOURTH STREET — Eric Ripert, Nov. 22, 7 p.m. The author reads from "A Return From Cooking."
Mollie Katzen, Nov. 23, 11 a.m. The author reads from "Sunlight Cafe."
1730 Fourth St. 510-555-9500
Free. Readings at 7:30 p.m. unless noted otherwise. Berkeley.

OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY — MAIN LIBRARY — "Being Brave, Showing Courage," through Nov. 29. An exhibi- tion of the winning entries in an art, poetry and essay contest sponsored by the Asian Pacific Fund.
"The Spirit of the Native Americans," through November. An exhibition hon- oring Native American Heritage Month.
9255 Edes Ave. 510-615-5725.

DIMOND BRANCH — Book Club, Dec. 1, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. For ages 9 to 13
3565 Fruitvale Ave. 510-482-7844.

BERKELEY POTTERS GUILD — "Peaceable Kingdom," Nov. 30 through Dec. 22. Artists' workspaces are transformed into festive show- rooms.
Free. Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 31 Jones, Berkeley. 510-524-7031 or www.berkeleypotters.com
BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY — CHIL-

DREN'S LIBRARY — Ann Arnold, Nov. 23, 3:30 p.m. The author of the "The Adventurous Chef: Alexis Soyer" speaks about her book.
Free. 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-644-6100 or www.infopeople.org/bpl

MARCUS BOOK STORE — Derrick Bell, Nov. 23. The author discusses "Ethical Ambition." At the African American Museum and Library of Oakland, 659 14th St. 510-763-9218
Events are free and start at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland. 510-652-2344

UC BERKELEY — "Sudden Charms The Progress of an Aria," Dec. 6, 4:30 p.m. 2002 Bloch Lecturer Roger Parker will talk about his work cen- tered on Italian opera of the 19th cen- tury. In Morrison Hall 125
Free. College Avenue and Bancroft Way, UC Berkeley Campus, Berkeley 510-642-2678

MUSEUMS

AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM AND LIBRARY — "Golden Road to Free- dom: The African Legacy in California, 1775-1900," ongoing. An exhibit fo- cusing on the role that people of African descent played in later expedi- tions and settlements before the an- nexation of California.
"The West Oakland Senior Citizen Oral History Project," ongoing. This visual and oral exhibit captures the history of some of West Oakland's senior trea- sures. Featured are 51 black-and- white photographs and recorded con- versations, including ones by Dr. Marcella Ford, Ruth Beckford, An- thony Martinez, and Alonzo Fields.
Free. Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 5:30 p.m. 659 14th St., Oakland 510-637-0200 or www.oaklandlibrary.org

EBONY MUSEUM OF ARTS — A mu- seum specializing in the art and his- tory of Africa. The collection, which was on display in the museum's Jack London Village branch, has been in- corporated with the material in the 14th Street Victorian Museum build- ing, the site of the original museum. Free admission; \$2 guided tour. Mon- day through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6

p.m. 1034 14th St., Oakland. 510-763-0141

GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM — through December. The museum features extensive displays of operating model railroads con- structed by the East Bay Model En- gineers Society. \$3 general; \$2 seniors and children under age 12; \$7 family maximum. Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Miller-Knox Regional Shoreline, 900-A Dornan Drive, Point Richmond. 510-234-4884 or www.gsmrm.org

MAGNES MUSEUM — "Hidden in the Walls. The Time Capsule from San Francisco's Lost Sanctuary," through Feb. 16. Inspired by a recent discov- ery of a time capsule, the exhibition reveals the untold story of a pioneer congregation and the spirit of a changing city.
Stephanie Snyder: Hamakon "The Piazza," through Feb. 16. A mixed-me- dia installation examining the intersec- tion of sacred space, religious prac- tice and historical memory.
"Sharing the Screen: Israelis and Pales- tinians in the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival," through Feb. 16. A cin- ematic exhibition featuring a dozen film excerpts exploring Jewish-Arab and Israeli-Palestinian themes.

SECOND SUNDAYS — A series of pro- grams that begin at 2 p.m. Free with museum admission.
Dec. 8: Discussion: "Israelis and Pales- tinians on Film."
\$4 adults; \$3 students and seniors; chil- dren under 12 free. Monday through Thursday, noon to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 2911 Russell St., Berkeley. 415-591-8800 or www.mag- nesmuseum.org

MILLS COLLEGE ART MUSEUM — "Other Anissas," closing Dec. 1. A se- ries of letters from other women named Anissa by Anissa Mack. "Ren- dering," through Dec. 15. An exhibi- tion of works by Jeannette Louie.
Free. Tuesday, Thursday through Satur- day, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m.

See EVENTS, Page C9

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Good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere describe Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant. For over 30 years the restaurant has been located adjacent to the Park Street Bridge overlooking the Alameda/Oakland estuary. The "Pier" offers an extensive menu featuring fresh seafood, angus New York steak, prime rib, pasta, teriyaki ribs, daily specials, and much more. The theme in the kitchen is "good homestyle cooking." Brunch is served on weekends from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the popular earlybird menu is featured daily. Every table has a view of the water and there is plenty of free parking. The Pier is open 7 days a week, Mon. - Fri. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. Bar Hours: Mon. - Thu. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m., Fri. - Sat.

Sergio's Trattoria
5299 College Ave., Oakland (510) 655-2569
Dining is only part of what makes Sergio's such an outstanding restaurant. The waiters always take time to chat with patrons and help determine personal tastes and food preferences - extra garlic, light but spicy decadent. Regular patrons trust the waiter's choice and don't even look at the menu. Seafood, pasta, chicken, meat, even wild boar are featured; plus creative daily specials (with gourmet descriptions). Wild game a specialty - wild boar, antelope, elk. Every weekend they feature crab cioppino. "The food tastes good because it's made with extra amore." Newly decorated, Sergio's is lovelier than ever. Whether you dine inside or in the heated outdoor patio, it's an intimate setting with easy listening Italian background music.
VS, MC, \$\$

Gold Coast Grill
1901 Park Street, Alameda (510) 522-5355
An Alameda favorite since 1992, the Gold Coast Grill serves a wide selection of dishes with a Mediterranean flair in a warm, inviting setting. Dining choices include classic favorites, Grecian specialties and contemporary style. Lunch and dinner specialties are featured daily. Private dining rooms are available for your special events.

Cesare's Fine Italian Cuisine
2820 Mountain Blvd., Oakland (510) 531-9400
Cesare's is one of Oakland's elegant Italian restaurants located in the Oakland East Bay Hills. Dine in the relaxing atmosphere with a fireplace and beautiful fountains in the gardens viewed by each table. The owners, Oscar & Doris, are in their 5th year of service and take great pride in offering specialties such as tender Veal Scaloppini, Veal Parmigiana, Italian Pot Roast and Homemade Cannelloni Alta Romana. They offer a full bar that opens at 4:00 p.m. and banquet facilities. Reservations recommended.
VS MC AE \$\$

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...of California
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...from decorated hippie
...Hollywood dresses
...the Aerial Photographs of
...through Jan. 12.
...five photographs
...1,000 feet above ground
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...or film
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...California," through March
...offering a historical
...disasters beginning with
...San Francisco. The exhibit
...Hallahan's photog-
...objects, maps, and
...response equipment
...Ranch Mastodon Project."
...are invited to watch
...of the Natural Sciences
...prepare a nearly com-
...for exhibit. Monday
...10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
...\$5 — Free with museum
...noted otherwise.
...Thursdays, 1 p.m. to
...the museum's collec-
...in the History De-
...— Docent Gallery
...day and Sunday, 1:30
...ongoing. Art docents of-
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...aspect of the museum's
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...the saints, 16th and
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...the miniatures from the
...and late 19th century
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...painter Robert
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...uncalculated
...and spontaneous ink
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...whose work reflects
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...Soponas,"
...illustration art fusing
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...through Feb. 9. A se-
...this exhibition
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Art Museum's collections have grown over the past five years.

"MicroPainting: The Portrait Miniature," through Dec. 22. An exhibition of miniature portraits from the collection of the Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology which were collected by Hearst, bequeathed to the museum in 1909, and have never been exhibited. Included in the exhibition is a discussion of miniature portrait painting and the reasons for its existence and decline.

"XXL II," through March. Showcasing the biggest works of arts, including large-scale paintings and sculptures from Gay Outlaw, Jonathan Borofsky, Petah Coyne and David Ireland.

ASIAN GALLERIES — "Friends and Rivals: Nanga Painters Baitus and Chikuto," closing Dec. 1. A collaborative triptych of hanging scrolls by Yamamoto Baitus and Nakabayashi Chikuto, and rival painters in late 18th- and early 19th-century Japan.

\$6 general; \$4 seniors and students ages 12 to 18; free children under age 12 and UC Berkeley students; free Thursdays. Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. 510-842-0808 or www.bampfa.berkeley.edu

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY HEARST MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY — "A Century of Collecting," through 2002. An exhibit honoring the first 100 years of the Phoebe Apperson Hearst Museum of Anthropology which has been closed for a complete renovation. The exhibit, drawn from 3.8 million objects collected over a century, contains 700 objects dating back to 4000 B.C. and includes documentary field notes, photographs and maps used by anthropologists who collected many of the objects. "Story cards" accompany the exhibit, explaining why individuals made and used the objects on display as well as why and how the collections were assembled. The pieces on display range from a funeral stela made for ancient Egyptian Princess Wepemnofret, making a rare public appearance, to an elk antler spoon made in 1994 by a contemporary carver from the Hupa and Yurok tribes.

"Native California Cultures," ongoing. This is a permanent exhibit of some 500 artifacts from the museum's California collections, the largest and most comprehensive collections in the world devoted to California Indian cultures. The exhibit includes a section about Ishi, the famous Indian who lived and worked with the museum. Yurok tribal baskets and a 17-foot Yurok canoe carved from a single redwood.

\$2 general; \$1 seniors; \$0.50 youths age 16 and under; free on Thursdays for all. Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Kroeber Hall, Bancroft Way and College Avenue, Berkeley. 510-843-643-1193, ext 4 or www.qal.berkeley.edu/~hearst/

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY MUSEUM OF PALEONTOLOGY — "Tyrannosaurus Rex," ongoing. A 20-foot tall, 40-foot long replica of the

feared dinosaur. The replica is made from casts of bones of the most complete T. Rex skeleton yet excavated. When unearthed in Montana, the bones were all lying in place with only a small piece of the tailbone missing.

"Pteranodon," ongoing. A suspended skeleton of a flying reptile with a wingspan of 22 to 23 feet. The Pteranodon lived at the same time as the dinosaurs.

"California Fossils Exhibit," ongoing. An exhibit of some of the fossils that have been excavated in California.

Free. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Lobby, Valley Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley. 510-642-1821 or www.ucmp.berkeley.edu

USS HORNET MUSEUM — Come aboard the USS Hornet, a World War II aircraft carrier that has been converted into a floating museum. The Hornet, launched in 1943, is 899 feet long and 27 stories high. During World War II she was never hit by an enemy strike or plane and holds the Navy record for number of enemy planes shot down in a week. In 1969 the Hornet recovered the Apollo 11 space capsule containing the first man to walk on the moon, and later recovered Apollo 12. In 1991 the Hornet was designated a National Historic Landmark and is now docked at the same pier she sailed from in 1944. Today, visitors can tour the massive ship, view World War II-era warplanes and experience a simulated aircraft launch from the carrier's deck.

EXHIBITS — "Hornets before Wings," ongoing. This exhibit chronicles the 227-year history of U.S. Navy ships bearing the Hornet name, from the Revolutionary War through the Cold War.

"Boomerangs and Roostertails: Cold War ASW in the Pacific," ongoing. This exhibit honors the Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) squadrons assigned to protect America during the Cold War. As a cornerstone of the Museum's new ASW Research Division, the exhibit traces the development of the Hunter-Killer ASW Carrier Battle-group and the role played by the VS Squadrons, squadrons of anti-submarine planes.

SPECIAL EVENTS — "Flight Deck Fun," ongoing. A former Landing Signal Officer will show children how to bring in a fighter plane for a landing on a lighter plane for a landing on the deck then let them try the signals themselves. Times vary. Free with admission.

Protestant Divine Services, Sundays, 11 a.m. Hornet Chapel John Berger conducts church services aboard the Hornet in the Wardroom Lounge. Everyone is welcome and refreshments are served immediately following the service.

\$12 general; \$10 seniors, students and military, active or inactive; \$5 youths age 5 to 16; free children under age 5. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pier 3 (enter at Atlantic Avenue), Alameda Point, Alameda. 510-521-8448 or www.uss-hornet.org

WESTERN AEROSPACE MUSEUM —

The museum features a display of aircraft ranging from World War II to present-day models, as well as other historical aviation memorabilia. Among the museum displays are a McDonnell Douglas A-4 Skyhawk from the Vietnam War, a McDonnell Douglas-British Aerospace Harrier; a replica of the Wright Brothers 1911 Vin Fiz, the first plane to be flown across the United States; and a Lockheed Vega, a single engine plane flown by Amelia Earhart who set speed records in it. The plane is the only Vega in existence with an aluminum fuselage. Also included is a vertical take-off Harrier jet formerly belonging to NASA and a British-built flying boat. Docent-led tours available by special request.

\$7 general; \$6 seniors; \$3 children age 6 through 12; free children under age 6; \$2 additional for Short Solent flying boat tour. Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. North Field, Oakland International Airport, 8260 Boeing St., Building 621, Oakland. 510-638-7100.

TOURS AND ACTIVITIES

RUTH BANCROFT GARDENS — One of America's finest private gardens, the Ruth Bancroft Garden displays 2,000 specimens from around the world that thrive in an arid climate. Included are African and Mexican succulents, New World cacti, Australian and Chilean trees, and shrubs from California.

2002 TOUR SCHEDULE — through March 29: First and third Saturday, 10 a.m. By reservation only. \$5 general; free children age 12 and under. Gardens open only for tours and special events that are listed on the Garden's telephone information line. 1500 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek. 925-210-9663 or www.ruthbancroftgarden.org

BAY AREA RAIL TRAILS — A network of trails converted from unused railway corridors.

OHLENE GREENWAY — A 3.75-mile paved trail converted from the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway. Suitable for strollers and skaters. The trail runs under elevated BART tracks from Conlon and Key Streets in El Cerrito to Virginia and Acton Streets in Berkeley. 510-215-4382, 510-528-5759 or 510-644-6566.

SHEPHERD CANYON TRAIL — A 3-mile paved trail converted from the Sacramento Northern Rail line. The trail is gently sloping and generally follows Shepherd Canyon Road Suitable for walkers and cyclists. Begins in Montclair Village behind McCaulou's Department Store on Medau Place and ends at Paso Robles Drive, Oakland. 510-238-7275.

BAY AREA RIDGE TRAIL — The Bay Area Ridge Trail, when completed will be a 400-mile regional trail system that will form a loop around the entire San Francisco Bay region, linking 75 public parks and open spaces to

thousands of people and hundreds of communities. Hikes on portions of the trail are available through the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council. Call for meeting sites.

"Tilden and Wildcat Bike Rides," Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. A vigorous ride through Tilden and Wildcat Canyon Regional Parks. Reservations required. Distance: 15 miles. Elevation gain: 2,000 feet. Difficulty: intermediate. Pace: fast. Meeting place: In front of the North Berkeley BART Station. 510-849-9650.

"Lake Chabot Bike Rides," Thursdays, 6:15 a.m. These rides are for strong beginners and intermediates to build skill, strength and endurance at a non-hammerhead pace. No one will be dropped. Reservations required. Distance: 14 miles. Elevation gain: 1,000 feet. Difficulty: beginner to intermediate. Pace: moderate. Meeting place: Lake Chabot Road at the main entrance to the park. 510-468-3582.

"Mountain Bike Basics," The Bicycle Trails Council of the East Bay teaches mountain bike classes monthly. Learn to ride prepared, responsibly, and skillfully. The ride will include a slice of the Ridge Trail. A short 10-mile group ride usually follows the class. Helmets required and participants must have bicycles in good working condition. Bring water and energy bars. Rain may cancel. Reservations required. At Bort Meadow, Anthony Chabot Regional Park, Redwood Canyon, Oakland. 925-258-9118. Free. 415-391-9300.

BERKELEY CITY CLUB TOURS — Guided tours through Berkeley's City Club, a landmark building designed by architect Julia Morgan, designer of Hearst Castle.

\$2. The fourth Sunday of every month between noon and 4 p.m. 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-7800

CALDECOTT TUNNEL TOUR — Take a walking tour through the giant ventilation ducts that run above the bays of the Caldecott Tunnel and learn the intricacies of running a tunnel system. See the jet-engine size fans pump fresh air into the tunnels at more than 50 miles per hour and visit the Control Station where crewmembers monitor the tunnels. The two-hour tour includes a movie on how the tunnels were built and an opportunity to watch the lane switch. Tours for six or more people. Reservations required. Ask for Ray or Sherman to make a reservation.

Free. Wednesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. Caldecott Tunnel, State Highway 24, Oakland. 510-286-0315.

CAMRON-STANFORD HOUSE — The Camron-Stanford House, a stately, 1876 Italianate-style home that was at one time the Oakland Public Museum, has been restored and furnished with appropriate period furnishings by the Camron-Stanford House Preservation Association. It is the last Victorian house on Lake Merritt's shore. Tours available on Wednesday and Sunday. \$4 general; \$2 seniors; free children under age 12. Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY AND NEW YEAR'S DAY. 14th Street and Lakeside Drive, Oakland. 510-444-1876

CHABOT SPACE AND SCIENCE CENTER — A state-of-the-art facility unifying all science education activities around astronomy.

GALLERIES AND EXHIBITS — "The Human Body Exhibit," ongoing. A 500-square-foot exhibit that offers a variety of hands-on activities as well as displays on thermography, x-ray and hearing. In addition there is a computer fly-through of 3D representations of human anatomy. The exhibit is in preparation for the upcoming film "The Human Body." In the Tien Megadome Theater lobby.

"Spaceflight: Journey to the Stars," ongoing. Learn about the many benefits to the general public that have come from space flights, investigate the past, present and future of space flights, climb into a space capsule, try landing a lunar exploration module safely on the Moon using an exact copy of one portion of the Apollo Spacecraft that landed on the Moon's surface, take a tour of the Solar System, see NASA models of rockets and spacecraft, learn first-hand how astronauts deal with weightlessness, and see what it feels like to wear a space suit.

"Zeiss Telescopes," ongoing. This traveling exhibit displays telescopes and other stargazing equipment from the noted German manufacturer. Also included is Chabot's Zeiss Universarium Starball in the Planetarium.

"Our Place in the Universe," ongoing. A walking tour of the universe using 3-D technologies and featuring the Hologlobe, on permanent loan from the Smithsonian Institution.

"Planetary Landscapes: Sculpting the Solar System," ongoing. Wander through a room of swirling atmospheres, bubbling calderas, and a sea of clouds in this exhibit of interactive sculptures by artist Ned Kahn.

"Planet Trek," ongoing. Take the controls and blast off for a multimedia tour of the Solar System. Choose your own destination, view planetary landscapes and learn about asteroids, moons, and planets as you journey through space.

"Astronomy in California 1850-1950: Observatories, Telescope Makers and their Instruments," ongoing. Explore California's astronomical history and Chabot Observatory's own 117-year history through a display of telescopes, artifacts, and the histories of their makers, on loan from the Smithsonian Institution.

"The Origin and Meaning of Meteorites," ongoing. A mural by artists Joy Day and B.E. Johnson, accompanied by a case of meteorite samples.

"Solar-B: See the Sun in a New Light," ongoing. Learn about the sometimes temperamental behavior of the sun and the effects it has on earth through the Solar-B mission. Visit the Virtual Science Center to learn more about the Solar-B mission.

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Well, not quite to die for, but 'Day' works

■ Although a little prolonged, this flick does have its share of 007 staples — gadgets, babes and Brosnan

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

James Bond may be British, but he's the cinematic equivalent of that most American of events, the Super Bowl.

Consider the similarities: Like the Super Bowl, Bond movies are hotly anticipated, yet somehow always seem too long. They can be counted on for action violence, but never enough to make anyone queasy. There is always a musical number by a notable pop star du jour.

Scantily clad women prance through at some point. There are women in the audience, but most of them are with men who wish they were instead seeing it with someone who really understands — like, say, Fred or George.

And like the Super Bowl, the Bond franchise seems destined to go on, regardless of the march of time.

"Die Another Day," the latest Bond effort — half frivolous fun, half tedious — is the 20th in the series, which began in 1962 with "Dr. No," starring Sean Connery. "Die Another Day" is directed by New Zealander Lee Tamahori, and stars Pierce Brosnan in his fourth appearance as 007. Brosnan has never looked happier or more at ease in the part; one suspects it will have to be wrestled away from him eventually. At the end of the movie's lengthy opening caper, involving diamonds, explosives and some Korean bad boys, including one named Zao (Rick Yune) who ends up with a permanent facial tattoo of jewels, our James finds himself dangling on a giant bell.

He drops to the ground with the grace of a man of 20, not 49 as Brosnan is, dusts off his hands and says dryly, "Saved by the bell." I hadn't felt such an unabashed thrill of Bondness in ages.

My euphoria was diminished somewhat by the title sequence, in which Bond is tortured in a North Korean prison through unusually cruel means, namely

REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "Die Another Day"

■ **STARRING:** Pierce Brosnan, Halle Berry, Rosamund Pike, Toby Stephens, Rick Yune

■ **RATING:** PG-13 (action violence and sexuality)

■ **RUNNING TIME:** 2 hours, 12 minutes

■ **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters

■ **GRADE:** B-



being fed scorpion venom and forced to listen to Madonna sing "Die Another Day."

But I rallied for Bond's subsequent dressing down by M (Judi Dench), expulsion from the ranks of super spies for treachery and decision to go out on his own as a renegade agent to track down the real traitor.

Being a renegade isn't much of a handicap, as it turns out. Swiftly, he's off to Cuba in hot pursuit of Zao. There, he puffs on cigars (Bond's first smoke since Brosnan took over the role) and meets up and beds a mysterious woman named Jinx (Halle Berry). Note to screenplay writers Neal Purvis and Robert Wade,

who also wrote "The World Is Not Enough": Not to be a chick about it, but a little foreplay would have been nice.

In truth, Bond's talents as world tour guide may even exceed his powers of seduction. He always takes us somewhere fabulous. This time it's Iceland, to check up on a secondary archvillain, diamond merchant Gustav Graves (Toby Stephens, son of actress Maggie Smith), a mogul with something called the Icarus project stewing. Smells like someone may get his wings singed on the path to world domination to us.

While in Iceland, Bond gets to sleep in an ice palace, defrost a babe named Miranda Frost (Rosamund Pike), drive across a frozen lake and, in an unfortunate action sequence, surf in a turbulent sea of Ty-D-Bol.

Tamahori is a director of some reputation, which is to say that his first movie, "Once We Were Warriors" was highly acclaimed, while subsequent ones, "The Edge" and "Along Comes a Spider," have been less so.

He leaves little impression as a Bond director, other than the fact that he lets the whole thing go on far too long and punctuates his "important" sequences

with an occasional tiresome slow-motion sequence.

But we're not there for the auteur anyway; a Bond film is, of course, only as good as its villains, gadgets and girls.

Yune and Stephens are fun, although both seem better equipped for Milan's runways than world domination. The gadgets, supplied by Q (John Cleese, officially taking over for Desmond Llewelyn, who died in 1999) include a watch — "your 29th I believe" Q sniffs — and an invisible Aston Martin V12 Vanquish, which might have a better impression on me if I weren't still recovering from the invisible plane in "I Spy."

Which brings us to the girls. Madonna pops up in a negligible cameo, but she's too busy wondering how her eye makeup looks to have any sexual chemistry with Bond. The scene where Bond, kissing Frost, urges her to "put her back into it," gave me my last laugh before the movie dissolved into one long fireball

sequence.

But it's all about Berry. Rising from the sea to meet Bond for the first time in a bikini the color of a cantaloupe, with a white knife belt clasped around her supple waist, Berry pays tribute to the treasured image of Ursula Andress doing the same in "Dr. No." Berry then carries on in the thespian tradition established by Andress, Stanislavsky takes a back seat to cleavage. Berry is lucky she already has her Oscar. It's going to take her years to

overcome the delusion that being a Bond girl is a very nature a commendable, interchangeable likely have on her an Actor. No stretch of imagination can make it highlighted by the mama" and "Real transcendent. But as a goddess, and in that's all that matters

Reach Mary Pols at 4741 or mpols@comcast.net

A COUPLE OF HOTTIES: Pierce Brosnan does the Bond thing and parachutes during a scene in "Die Another Day." Halle Berry is the Bond bikini babe in this 007 film.

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With the 2003 Hummer H2, GM gets real, more civilized

MOTOR MATTERS

The original Hummer was developed with the military in mind. Eventually, the company marketed a version for civilian use, a model dubbed the H1. Massive, expensive and overqualified for most off-roads, H1 promptly took its place at the extreme end of the SUV field.

The new H2 is a different proposition altogether. Here, GM sought to take the H1's rugged reputation and tame it — just slightly. The idea was to make a vehicle that's more practical for the on-road world, while not sacrificing the off-road strength that made the Hummer name.

I can certainly testify that H2 hasn't lost anything in terms of off-roading. The H2 can ford a 20-inch deep stream and climb a 60-percent grade. Starting from the ground up, the beefy ladder frame includes skid plates to protect the drivetrain and fuel tank. H2 has 10 inches of ground clearance and minimal overhangs front or back, features which make for impressive approach and departure angles (40.4 degrees and 39.6 degrees respectively).

Most impressive in H2's off-road arsenal is the suspension system. In addition to the standard, independent front torsion bar and five-link coil rear setup, buyers can choose an optional, self-leveling air suspension system.

Either way, the suspension has tons of travel, allowing the H2 to step over obstacles that would stop a lesser truck. The two-speed, full-time Borg-Warner four-wheel drive system splits the power 40 percent front/60 percent rear in "High Open" mode, with five settings available to lock/unlock differentials and optimize your off-road performance.

There is one powertrain provided for the newest Hummer. GM's Vortec 8000 V8 is coupled to a four-speed automatic overdrive transmission. The 6.0-liter motor is rated at 315-horsepower and 360 pound-feet of torque. This motor is entirely up to the task of hauling the more than three ton H2 along and is particularly strong in the lower registers, adding confidence during difficult climbs. The heavy-duty transmission has a driver-selectable "Tow-Haul" mode to optimize powertrain performance when pulling a load. Towing capacity is rated at 7,000 pounds.

On-road, H2 feels much more civilized than H1. Ride quality is smooth for a big truck. Visibility is good in all directions, save straight back where the spare tire stored inside crops out part of the rear view. The interior fits five comfortably, with an available third row seat for one more. While optional roof three boosts capacity by one, it poses more practical problems than



DAN LYONS
Get Off the Road

it solves. Entry/exit requires a gymnast's flexibility.

In addition, the third row seat takes up cargo space, part of which is already occupied by the beefy, inboard spare. To enhance stowage room, opt out of the third row, and choose a rear mounted spare carrier. If you need more capacity, look up. Hummer sells a roof rack with various accessories to fill the bill. Soft and hard roof-mounted cargo bins are offered, as well as a number of gadgets to hold skis, snowboards or bikes.

Though H2 is built for tough duty, that doesn't mean that passengers have to rough it. Front seats are eight-way power adjustable, and optional leather seats feature heaters, front and back.

The dual zone HVAC system vents through bazooka-sized outlets and allows front passengers to choose their own temperatures, with as much as a 25-degree difference. (That ought to be enough to produce cloud formations inside the cabin!)

The standard sound system is an AM/FM/Cassette/CD unit with nine Bose speakers, and other sonic step-ups are available. In all, the interior is fresh looking and comfortable. The least appealing part for many people might be access — hopping up into the Hum-

mer's tall cabin. Optional "U" steps are available to give a boost.

Calling the H2 the original Hummer can be a little deceptive. H2 is actually a little longer (188.3 inches) than H1 (178.3 inches) and longer (77.8 inches) than H1 and longer (77.8 inches) than H1. The biggest differences size-wise are width (about 5 inches narrower) and weight (H2 is 1,000 pounds lighter, tipping the scales at 6,400 pounds).

Half the price (\$48,065) and about as civilized as the original, the H2 stands to pull owners into the Hummer fold: those who afford to look at the H1. Like the H1, H2 places that few vehicles would dare match. The H1, it also blends in nicely with the H2.

Owners

FROM PAGE 1

runs across the window. When switched on, electricity flows through and heats those wires — just like a toaster. As the wires heat up, they dry the glass.

Since these wires basically are glued to the glass, they are vulnerable to damage. It's all too easy to simply break any of those wires by carelessly loading the rear of a station wagon, minivan or other hatchback.

When you notice that entire strips of glass are not clearing when you switch on the rear defroster, it's because one or more of those wires has broken. However, if no part of the glass clears when you switch on the defroster, it's more likely there's a blown fuse.

Check the fuse panel, and if the fuse is blown, replace it with one of the correct rating.

If the fuse is good but the defroster isn't working, the problem is likely a bad switch or a disconnected wire. Check to see that the wires that connect to the defroster are attached securely.

Disconnect the wires to be sure that the tabs and connectors are not coated with corrosion, using a very fine sandpaper or even a hard pencil eraser to polish the metal connector.

Also be sure that the tabs are connected solidly to the main wires of the grid. Then make certain that when you reattach the wires, they are snug. Another

wire to check (on vehicles with a hatchback) is a ground wire between the hatch and vehicle body. Make all the same checks on the ground wire.

Depending on your skills, you can carry the diagnosis further if you have an automotive voltmeter or a 12-volt test light.

Simply turn on the defroster (with the ignition on) and attach the probes to the grid's connectors. If the meter doesn't read or the test light doesn't light, there's either a break elsewhere in the circuit or the switch is

defective.

A lit test light or registering voltmeter means that there is power to the defroster. However, that power must get to each of the lines of the grid for the defroster to work.

If there's a break in one of the main power wires on the grid, electricity will not flow to the smaller wires. If any of the individual smaller wires are broken, the electricity will not complete its circuit and won't clear the glass around it.

To find a break in any of the wires, probe the voltmeter or test light to each of the defroster's connectors. Place the other probe on the ground of a small wire and the larger feed wire.

If there's no light or voltage, attach the test light to the other connector. Now slowly slide the test light along the thin wire. When the voltage reading on the test light goes out, you've found a break.

Repairing the break is relatively easy with a soldering kit which has a special liquid to

Keane

FROM PAGE 1

on the console, I watched the side windows lower as the top raised and then lowered, folding in layers upon itself and finally coming to a rest just over the trunk.

This entire operation from closed to open took only 13 seconds.

The convertible comes with a tonneau cover that protects the soft top from collecting dust and debris on the long drives. But the Beetle looks adorable without the cover.

The only drawback I noticed when the top was lowered was a lack of good rearward visibility when backing up.

During my drive I utilized the optional windbaffle, which was truly effective in cutting wind and noise from blowing around the

interior cabin.

The power-operated soft top features a defogging rear glass window.

Rollover protection bars, which deploy within 0.25 seconds, are standard and will be activated in a rollover — whether the top is lowered or closed.

The entry-level GLS 2.0, priced at \$20,450, comes with a manually operated convertible top. Volkswagen expects just 20 percent of buyers to purchase the base model.

All other models come with a power top.

Those wanting to experience joy in their driving may find themselves being pulled by some undefinable, emotional force to test-drive the 2003 Beetle convertible.

VOLKSWAGEN GLS 2.0

Vehicle Type	Four-passenger FWD subcompact convertible
Suggested Retail	\$21,850
Price as Tested	\$22,400
Engine Type	SOHC 8-valve four-cylinder w/SMPI
Horsepower	115 @ 5,400 rpm
Torque	125 @ 3,200 rpm
Transmission	Five-speed manual
Wheelbase	99 inches
Tread	(F/R) 59/58 inches
Curb Weight	3,082 pounds
Fuel Capacity	14 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 24/30
Strong Feature	Convertible top operation
Weak Feature	Blind spots

Clarification:

The featured car in Auto Plus Nov. 15 shown in the photo is a 2003 Cadillac DeVille which has a suggested retail price of \$43,200. The DHS model has a suggested retail price of \$48,055 and the DTS, which is the top of the line vehicle, retails for \$56,745.

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1928 Model A heading to Ford centennial party in Michigan

MOTOR MATTERS

19 years of producing 15 million Model A's, Henry Ford reluctantly shut down the T assembly line in May 1927. The first Model A Ford was built in 1928, the first Model A Ford built off the assembly line.

White had once owned a Model A coupe in the early 1950s. He recalls having that car's top crudely sawed off to transform it into a convertible. "I always liked it," he says.

In September 1992, White decided he wanted another Model A. While a lot of collectors seek coupes or roadsters, White sought a four-door sedan. "I wanted it easy to carry my five kids and my grandchildren," he explains.

White found a four-door "blind back" Model A Ford, which had been painted blue with a roller. It didn't have an engine or a transmission, he recalls. "My daughter thought I had lost my mind."

White quickly jumped at the opportunity to restore a Model A, bought the car and had it trailer to his home. Upon inspection, White discovered the car was a restoration that was more or less complete two years later.

White mounted 4.50x21-inch tires on the 30-spoke wheels, which he has painted a color called "straw."

Each wheel has a metal valve stem. The car body is a two-tone combination of rose beige and dark brown while the fenders are black. White says his car needs a straw-colored pinstripe to be correct, and that's next on his agenda.

With the rebuilt engine easily breathing through the 19 louvers on each side of the engine hood, White enjoys exercising his 74-year-old Ford.

"I've had it up to 60 (mph) once," he says.

Since the overhauled engine was installed, White has driven his Ford almost 10,000 miles. "It runs well," he says.

He does complain about the blind spot to the rear created by the metal where glass quarter windows could have been. It probably wasn't a problem in 1928 traffic and it does offer a modicum of privacy.

White has constructed a trunk to fit on the luggage rack at the rear of the car to hold necessities when he will travel to Dearborn, Mich., in July 2003 for the Ford centennial celebration.

VERN PARKER
Classic Classics

brake lever with a pistol-grip handle. Nearby is the red four-spoke steering wheel which, appeared only on the 1928 Fords. Thereafter, he says, the steering wheels were black.

A series of levers near the hub of the steering wheel appear on either side of the horn button. To the left is the spark advance lever while the throttle is to the right. Below is the lever controlling the headlights.

Since the Model A has no fuel pump, the gasoline is fed to the four-cylinder engine by means of gravity. Because the 10-gallon gasoline tank is mounted in the cowl just forward of the windshield and the dashboard, there is no room for a cowl vent.

A number of companies built bodies for Ford and at least one of them tried to convince Ford to put a side vent on the driver's side at ankle level. Although White's vehicle has such a vent, Henry Ford didn't like the idea, so only a rare few Model A Fords have that detail.

In lieu of a cowl vent, the Model A windshield does tilt open at the bottom. The single wiper is electric. In later years, Model A Fords were equipped with vacuum-powered wipers.

White has mounted 4.50x21-inch tires on the 30-spoke wheels, which he has painted a color called "straw."

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"I've had it up to 60 (mph) once," he says.



MOTOR MATTERS

MOST OTHER car collectors seek Model A coupes or roadsters, this owner, Harry White, sought a four-door sedan. "I wanted to make it easy to carry my five kids and five grandchildren," he explains.

Mercedes-Benz S 600 gains power and a safety boost

MOTOR MATTERS

Mercedes-Benz naturally uses the best materials, fine workmanship, and unique design with a touch of luxury.

The formula for luxury just isn't complete without a healthy dose of performance. And buyers of ultra-luxury cars like the Mercedes-Benz S 600 and CL 600 not only expect high power and handling, they demand refined power and lots of torque.

The six-cylinder engines, the S 600 and V12, the S-Class range of powerplants to meet buyers' tastes, as well as the car's bank accounts, the output ranges from about 300 to 500 horsepower in the S 600 model.

Top of the new powertrain is a newly developed 12-cylinder engine with water-cooled intercooler and other innovations.

Of advanced lightweight design, this 5.5-liter V12 develops 493 horsepower.

DAVE VAN SICKLE
Down the Road

The torque curve of the V12 in the S 600 shows how effectively the fast-acting twin turbochargers do their job. Peak torque of 590 foot-pounds comes onstream at 1,800 rpm and remains constant up to 3,500 rpm.

Maximum power output of 493 horsepower is developed at 5,000 rpm.

The enormous power of the V12 comes from the use of the twin turbochargers. Their cast steel turbines are located in the exhaust manifold for maximum efficiency.

Wastegates integrated into each turbocharger are activated electronically by the engine management microprocessor. The air compressed by the turbochargers flows through two water-cooled intercoolers to optimize its temperature and density prior to combustion.

On the highway, the new V12 delivers a magnificent driving experience. Pushing the pedal to the floor provides the first sensation of power as your body is compressed into the seat back.

Passing and merging takes a remarkably short distance. It's easy to forget how much power you're dealing with because even under full power, drivetrain performance is smooth and quiet.

But there's more to the new S 600 than just raw power. Mercedes engineers haven't slowed down in their quest for improved vehicle safety, and one of their latest developments is showcased in their top-of-the-line sedan.

Called PRE-SAFE, it was developed to detect an imminent collision before it occurs and prepares to go into action immediately to prepare both the vehicle and its occupants.

PRE-SAFE is based on the findings of the Mercedes accident researchers.

The results show that more than two-thirds of all crashes are preceded by critical dynamic situations — such as skidding, emergency braking or a sudden evasive maneuver — which provide advance warning that a collision is imminent. In the past, no use was made of this valuable information which may last for several seconds.

The familiar protection systems like the seat belt, airbag, or belt tensioners are triggered only when the impact actually occurs.

PRE-SAFE, on the other hand, reads the danger signals in advance and uses the remaining time prior to the potential accident to activate precautionary safety measures.

For example, if emergency braking is sensed, PRE-SAFE activates reversible belt tensioners to prevent the driver's and front passenger's bodies from moving too far forward during braking.

At the same time, the position of the front passenger seat is corrected. If the seat is positioned too far forward, it is automatically moved further back.

If the backrest is angled too far back, it is adjusted to an upright position.

Then the angle of the seat cushion is also adjusted if necessary.

PRE-SAFE also uses data from the stability control system to identify dangerous skidding movements of the vehicle.

If such a situation is detected, the system automatically intervenes by activating the belt tensioners and repositioning the passenger seat — but this time, it closes the sunroof to reduce the risk of injury to occupants during a roll-over.

The new twin turbo engine and the advanced concept of PRE-SAFE are just two of many interesting features in the 2003 S 600.

For those who can afford it, there's nothing like the ultimate feeling of power, luxury, and safety.

Static buildup probable cause of shock

IF OTHER NEWSPAPERS

constantly shocked upon getting my car. When I get out and stand on the ground and the car door I get shocked.

Occasionally the shock is more like a 1992 Buick Century with windows, seat adjuster and the radio antenna when the engine is turned off.

I got the car it was driven and the battery would die at the point where the engine started.

There is an electric

BRAD BERGHOLDT
Auto QnA

leak into the frame. How do I locate it?

Doug Matthews, Kent, Wash.

A Doug, it sounds like you're building up an electrical charge as you slide across the seat when leaving the Buick.

This is a function of dry weather, synthetic fibers in the seat and your clothing, and the carbon content of the vehicle's tires.

The inner door handle is apparently constructed of or housed in plastic, or you would discharge the static buildup as you touched it. It's also possible the handle is grounded, but you're letting go of it prior to sliding out of the seat.

To prevent static buildup, try the following: Touch the handle continuously as you leave the vehicle, which can become an easy habit with time.

If this fails to do the trick, locate a trim screw in the driver's door panel (preferably in or near the arm

See QnA, Page D4

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QnA

FROM PAGE D3

rest pull handle) that threads into the door's metal structure.

Remove the screw and add a washer or metal tab under the screw head.

Touch the metal part as you leave the vehicle, and you'll be shock-free. I learned this trick from my fishing buddy, Pat LoVerso.

It's not unusual for a modern vehicle to run down the battery when parked for a couple of months or

longer.

A very small parasitic load results from retaining clock, radio, and ECM (electronic control module) memories.

If the drain occurs at a faster rate than this, there is a fault, but it's unrelated to the shocks you've received.

Q I have an odd problem with the heater-air fan in my 1995 Dodge Grand Caravan

If the vent setting is on the floor and dash (not defrost or floor only) and the fan is on and I accelerate fairly hard, as if to gain speed or go up a hill, the vents will change

themselves to defrost only.

And then when I let up on the gas, it will go back to floor and dash. This happens more often than not but not every time I step on the gas.

I've had the dealer look at it twice and they could not duplicate the problem.

Dana M., Seattle

A Dana, your ventilation system is operated by engine vacuum

I believe the supply hose — it's slender and black, begins at the brake booster hose fitting and enters the van body at the center of the firewall — is collapsed or leak-

ing. Also, the in-line check-valve — it's black, pill-bottle-shaped and at the beginning of the hose — might be faulty.

When you accelerate the Caravan, engine vacuum drops, the fault compounds this condition, and the default (no vacuum) ventilation mode is the defrosters.

Brad Bergholdt teaches automotive technology at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. E-mail him at Bergholdt@juno.com or write to him in care of Drive, Mercury News, 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95190. He cannot make personal replies.

The quest for young buyers

KNIGHTRIDER NEWS SERVICE

Toyota will begin marketing the Scion brand of vehicles catering to youth beginning next year through its West Coast dealerships before going nationwide.

Honda this fall offers a new small sport-utility vehicle called Element, also aimed at the coveted youth market. The thinking is that if you capture buyers when young, they'll stay with your brand as they age.

But Nissan has revealed no plans for special vehicles aimed at youth because, according to Nissan officials, they already have the

second-youngest buyer

ket now. According to Statista, Volkswagen claims to have the most buyers with an average age of 24. Nissan is second at 25.

But to play it safe, Nissan's dealers reveal that the company is looking at the subcompact market, they said. The next-generation comes out in 2004, a facelift for '04.

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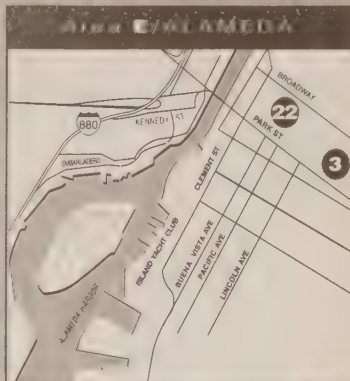
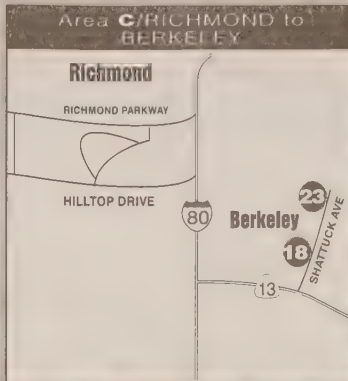
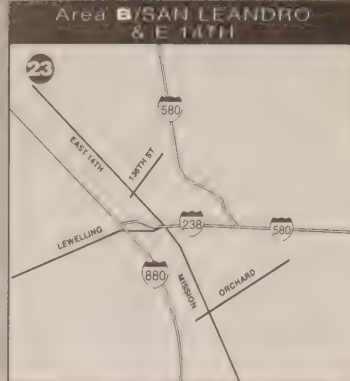
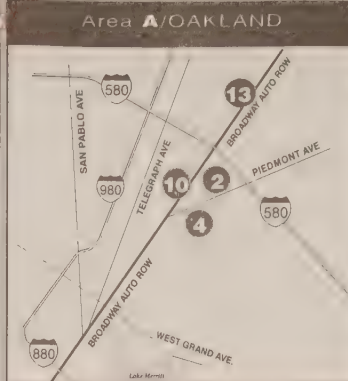
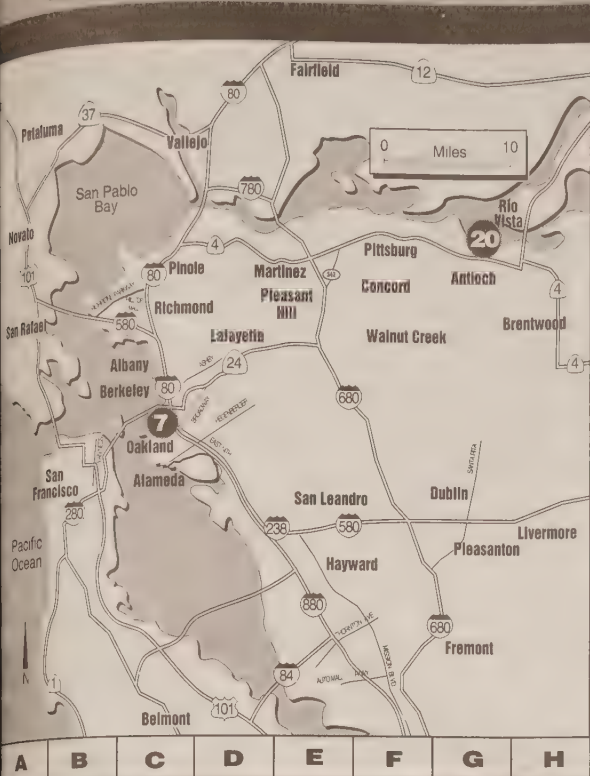
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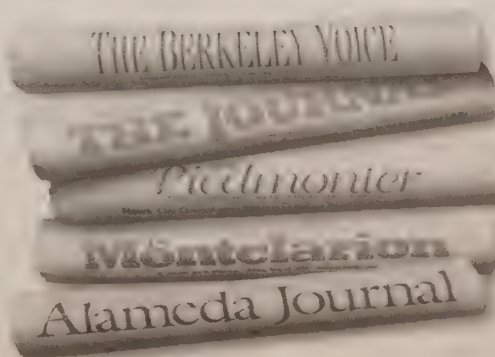
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Jarline 925/250-7109 Roberto 925/250-7110</p> <p>CAT yellow tabby, male, 5 yrs., 11/14, Stagecoach Rd. Dublin. (925) 829-8926</p> <p>CHIUAHUA: Lg., wte/crn spots. Garbonzo 3 yrs. Iron Horse Tr. 925/935-1058</p> <p>DOG, blk. Cockar Spaniel Blue collar. Pleasant Hill. \$500 reward 925/228-5207</p> <p>DOG: Collie, sable color San Ramon area 7yr. male. REWARD! (925) 828-0790</p> <p>DOG, rish setter, 12 yrs. old. Reward Upper Happy Valley Rd. (925) 259-1952</p> <p>LABRADOR/Black w/ green collar. Pitts. Ventura & Suzanne area. (925) 457-5314</p> <p>POWERMANIAN, mix red male wcoll. long legs. no. mads. Rew 925/256-8512</p>	<p>4B Lost</p> <p>PARROT, African Gray, Lost in Val Vista Area. Gray wired tail. 10 inches long. 11/19 reward 925/462/3162</p> <p>RING w/3 Opals. Lost 11/13 Great sentimental value. Nr. Orinda/Lafayette area. Target Walnut Creek. Reward. (925) 253-9233</p> <p>SIBERIAN Husky fem., blk white w/white eyes. Answer to Kianika. Livermore area. REWARD (925) 971-6809</p> <p>TABBY, grey, fem., spots on belly. B-Cat. lost 10/29. Call (510) 525-8169</p> <p>YELLOW LABS, 2 male, 7 mo. 50 lbs. crocker chairs. Antioch (925) 778-4993</p> <p>8 Burial Lots</p> <p>CONCORD MEMORIAL GARDENS. 1 dbl. plot. pkg. 925-706-8048</p> <p>MOUNTAIN VIEW Mausoleum crypt/interior sec 8. 1st fl. \$6000 (510) 531-4743</p> <p>200 Schools & Instruction</p> <p>ATTENTION Black Belts & new students! Study with Grand Mstr 925/455-1800</p> <p>MEDICAL TRAINING Phlebo-Med Asst-EKG Pharmacy Tech Boston/Reed 800-201-1141</p>	<p>200 Schools & Instruction</p> <p>TUTORING/Private M.A. Ed. READING SPECIALIST. DANVILLE (925) 351-3363</p> <p>203 Central Contra Costa County Child Care</p> <p>MARTINEZ DAYCARE 1 FT spot. Avail. now. 0-4 yrs. #070210351 925/226-4532</p> <p>1/2 OFF reg. fee. Providing hot lunch & snack. #070213244 925/662-6728</p> <p>QUALITY loving care. 20 yrs. exp. nr. 680 & Hwy. 4. #070215036 925/372-7323</p> <p>ABB's Daycare Preschl exp teacher. 0-5 yrs. FT/PT. WC 070210015 (925) 945-0743</p> <p>ALL AGE. 24 hrs., 15 yr exp. Bldg/child/meal. W.C. 073400876 925/644-7190</p> <p>REASONABLE</p> <p>ALL Ages Welcome, Day & Night Care. #073401310. Call Connie 925/228-0267</p> <p>ARMINEH'S Day Care, 0-5 yrs. Ygnacio & Walnut Ave. #073402114 925/210-0182</p> <p>CHILD CARE, meals incl'd. 16 mos & up. 6-30 to 5 pm. #073401961 925/627-9272</p> <p>CONCORD home day care 9AM-5PM. FT/PT. 073402289 (925) 661-3136</p> <p>EXPERIENCED w/ refs. Ages 0-12. #073402395 925/676/5541 925/586/8447</p>	<p>203 Central Contra Costa County Child Care</p> <p>MARTINEZ DAYCARE 1 FT spot. Avail. now. 0-4 yrs. #070210351 925/226-4532</p> <p>1/2 OFF reg. fee. Providing hot lunch & snack. #070213244 925/662-6728</p> <p>QUALITY loving care. 20 yrs. exp. nr. 680 & Hwy. 4. #070215036 925/372-7323</p> <p>ABB's Daycare Preschl exp teacher. 0-5 yrs. FT/PT. WC 070210015 (925) 945-0743</p> <p>ALL AGE. 24 hrs., 15 yr exp. Bldg/child/meal. W.C. 073400876 925/644-7190</p> <p>REASONABLE</p> <p>ALL Ages Welcome, Day & Night Care. #073401310. Call Connie 925/228-0267</p> <p>ARMINEH'S Day Care, 0-5 yrs. Ygnacio & Walnut Ave. #073402114 925/210-0182</p> <p>CHILD CARE, meals incl'd. 16 mos & up. 6-30 to 5 pm. #073401961 925/627-9272</p> <p>CONCORD home day care 9AM-5PM. FT/PT. 073402289 (925) 661-3136</p> <p>EXPERIENCED w/ refs. Ages 0-12. #073402395 925/676/5541 925/586/8447</p>	<p>204 East Contra Costa County Child Care</p> <p>ANTIOCH licensed daycare 0-4 years. 6AM-5PM. #070210350 925/778-7490</p> <p>ANTIOCH QUALITY. Ages 2 & up 7am-8pm, reas. Sean 925/755/0963 #073403711</p> <p>DAYCARE/PRESCHOOL in Antioch, ages 0 & up. 5:30am & eve. hours. 073403300 925-706-0963</p> <p>INFANT to 4yrs. pre schol activities. 7 yrs. exp. Easy access to Vasco. 7am-6 #073400489 925/516/2334</p> <p>205A Alameda County Child Care</p> <p>LITTLE Angels in Glenview Area. Toddler openings. #013413961 510/532-5708</p> <p>207 West Contra Costa County Child Care</p> <p>ABSOLUTE Best Care: Crea- dentified teacher, pre schol activities/meals. Antioch 925/778-3783 #073403710</p> <p>AGES 3 mo-4 yrs. Safe, clean, dependable. 6-5pm. #073401474 925/754-0440</p> <p>ANTIOCH 5am-7pm Mokeloume. Prewett area. 0-12 yrs. trans. exp. #073403696 925/678-1663</p> <p>ANTIOCH Family Daycare FT&PT openings. All ages. Bldg & trans. avail. Lic. #73403390 925-778-2570</p>	<p>300 Pets & Services</p> <p>NOTICE Contra Costa Newspapers! Hills Newspapers In cooperation with animal rescue groups, advises advertisers to always ask an adoption fee for animals. Giving away pets for "Free" can put them in danger. "Free" pets can easily end up being abused. No amount of screening can prevent this. Also, it is a good idea, when possible, to obtain the new owner's full name, full address & phone number. For more information, contact Tony LaFosse's Animal Rescue Foundation at 925-256-1ARF or your local pet adoption agency. See today's Home & Business Service for Pet Services Advertising.</p> <p>ADOPT A BEST FRIEND CONTRA COSTA SPCA Petco 1825 Salvio St., Con. Sat & Sun. 12-4. 925-689-8435</p>
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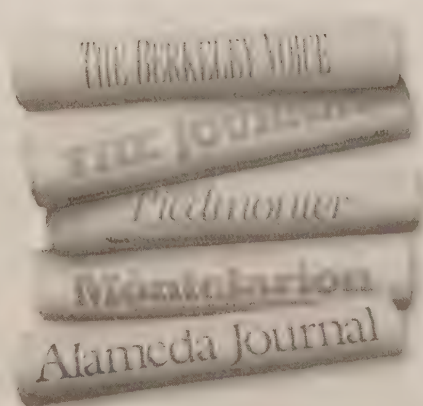
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Call 925-945-0778
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for tax season. Fast
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needs intelligent, energetic
individual, who can also
interview clients. Call
925-685-3765 or Fax
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Look for the
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Go to cctimes.com click on
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code into "Web ID"
search box.
See expanded
information about the job
and company.

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ACCOUNTING CLERK
ACS, a fortune 1000 Co., is
seeking qualified candi-
dates for the position of
Accounting Clerk. This position
is for our Solano County
operation in Fairfield, CA.
The position requires a min.
of 2 years exper. in govern-
ment accounting practices.
Qualified candidates
should email their resume
to the attn. of H. Compton
acompton@acs.com
ACS is an EOE

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Occupation?

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ACCOUNTING

Accounting Manager/Controller
The Oakland Zoo is looking
for an Accounting Manager
with 5+ years experience
includes mgmt. of all ac-
counting functions, budget-
ing, asset/liability mgmt., fi-
nancing planning. Highly
organized, computer profi-
cient, exp. in govern-
ment. P/T, \$45K-\$50K
benefits, 2 wks. vacation.
Reports to Asst. Director. If
you have a proven track re-
cord, send resume to: Asst.
Director, The Oakland Zoo,
P.O. Box 5028, Oakland,
CA 94605, or fax to (510)
635-5719. No call please.

250 Help Wanted

ACTIVITY PROGRAM
COORDINATOR
Adult Day Care program
Walnut Creek, seeks dy-
namic professional to lead
program. FT, BA or MA req.
\$22.50/hr. Cover letter and
resume. C/O JCC 2071, Tice
Valley Bl. W.C. 94599
Fax 925-937-0765

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Needed for large Int'l Co.

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end close

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Republic Services of
Northern CA is seeking an
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Specialist
for its Richmond Sanitary
Service division. If interest-
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Job Code APRSS
Republic Services of
Northern CA 3260 Blume
Dr., Ste. 119
Richmond, CA 94806
Fax 510-222-7499
email: brownie
repsrvwest.com

250 Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE Asst. FT
Excel, WP, proof reading,
ph. skills, & multi tasking
Fax resume (925) 820-9052

250 Help Wanted

Administrative Asst.
FT, Front desk, Windows,
data entry, computer,
phone & multi tasking skills
req. Team player. Benefits
Fax 925-609-1406

250 Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE Asst.
Immed. opening. Qualifi-
cations must inc. maint. of
phone & front desk, com-
puter knowledge, excel,
commun. & cust. svc.
skills. you have these
qualifications & would like
your resume reviewed pls
email crassey@us.ty.com
Pls. inc. sal. reqs. EOE
Web ID CC11212535

250 Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE Asst.
w/lexp. in const. contract
admin., acctg., working
knowledge of Microsoft Ex-
cel, Word & Lotus Salary
posit., vacation, medical,
& 401k. Send res. P.O. Box
3008, Vallejo, CA. 94590

250 Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE Asst. to
owner of RE co. Detail or-
iented. FT, long term job.
Central Marin Sal. DOE
Fax resume 415-461-3919

250 Help Wanted

Web ID CC112114602

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ADMINISTRATIVE

Receptionist.....to \$13/hr
Exp. w/ multi line phones
high volume calls, MS
Word and Outlook skills

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ADMINISTRATIVE Asst.
The East Bay's only Five
Star Diamond Hotel
• Seeking a FT Admin.
Asst., 2-3 yrs. exp.;
Adv. Excel & Word, a
must. Ben-401K
Fax or Send Resumes
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Attn: HR Department
3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd
Lafayette, CA 94549
FAX: 925-299-4392

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ADMINISTRATIVE Asst.
Immed. FT position
w/ W.C. Management &
Governmental Consultant
firm. Must know MS
Word/Excel. Powerpoint,
MS Project, Gd. communica-
tor & org. skills a plus
Beginning salary range
\$28,000 to \$33,000 annually
plus benefits. Fax resume
to Human Resources Dept.
925-935-0413 or email to
geniv.devassoc.com

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ADMINISTRATIVE Asst. FT
Excel, WP, proof reading,
ph. skills, & multi tasking
Fax resume (925) 820-9052

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Excel, WP, proof reading,
ph. skills, & multi tasking
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250 Help Wanted

Administrative Asst. FT
Excel, WP, proof reading,
ph. skills, & multi tasking
Fax resume (925) 820-9052

250 Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE Asst.

Piporing contractor seeks
FT Admin. asst./book-
keeper. Good cust. serv.
skills w/instr. exp. Detail
oriented, self-starter.
Word & type 60 WPM
Exper. in Quickbooks pref.
Fax resume to MSZ office
925-970-0659
Web ID CC111033560

250 Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE Asst.
Successful, estab. & grow-
ing Walnut Creek CPA firm
seeks FT exp. admin. person
to join our dynamic, fast-
paced team. Ideal candi-
date has excellent MS
Word skills, ability to multi-
task, is detail-oriented, or-
ganized, reliable, focused
on quality. Great loc., ben-
efits - extras. Come join
our terrific team of partners
& start E-mail cover letter
w/ salary req. & resume to
lapersonnel@scopa.com
or fax to HR 925-946-0744
or mail to HR at
LSB Accounting, P.O. Box 4068,
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

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ADMINISTRATIVE Asst.
Associate FT & P/T
Looking for highly motivat-
ed admin. assoc. to work in
fast paced sales & market-
ing agency in Pleasanton.
WHS/WORD/Excel exp req.
Powerpoint skills a plus
PLEASE FAX RESUME TO
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Web ID CC112035956

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ADMINISTRATIVE Asst.
P/T, Dairy workorder, com-
puter exp. a must.
serv 925-837-2805 x1 #

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P/T, Dairy workorder, com-
puter exp. a must.
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leader with great organiza-
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properties in Fremont &
San Ramon. Supervisory,
apt. turnover exp required

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ing real estate company
with a strong presence in
the multi-family indus-
try. We are currently hir-
ing experienced property
managers for our San
Francisco and San Jose
areas. The ideal candi-
date will have a minimum
of 5 years experience in
apartment management,
strong financial back-
ground, and excellent
communication skills.
We offer a competitive
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and a great work environ-
ment. If you are inter-
ested, please send your
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Operator-Entry Level
Numerous Openings!

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erators available in our
Concord facility. In these
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will perform basic and rou-
tine operations in water
treatment and work on all
phases of the production
process. Opportunities are
available for all shifts-days
evening and night. Previous
experience w/ cleanroom
procedures a plus.

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or fax 925-415-9710, or write
to 8680 Stoneridge,
Pleasanton, CA. 94588
EOE

250 Help Wanted

Web ID CC11173058

250 Help Wanted

ASSISTANT Mgr. for a nu-
tri. anal. Must be int. in
vita, herbs & fitness supp
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250 Help Wanted

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have Alz. exp. FT, comp. sal.
Fax res. 916-722-8760

250 Help Wanted

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250 Help Wanted

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Stockton, 128 units, com-
puter skills a +. Sal. apt.
bnfts. Fax 209-468-4473
1/3/03 Fax 415-433-6529
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Human Services Program Planner	\$4,809-\$5,905 per month	November 22, 2002	
Police Communications Dispatcher	\$23.52-\$26.02 per hour	November 22, 2002	
Program Analyst II (CEDA)	\$4,155-\$5,101 per month	November 22, 2002	
Office Assistant I	\$12.45-\$15.27 per hour	November 27, 2002	
Planner II	\$3,956-\$4,857 per month	December 2, 2002	
Planner III	\$4,581-\$5,624 per month	December 2, 2002	
Program Analyst III (Cultural Funding)	\$4,809-\$5,905 per month	December 6, 2002	
Stationary Engineer	\$22.83-\$28.03 per hour	December 6, 2002	
Project Choice Manager (ELDE)	\$5,600-\$6,300 per month	Open Until Filled	
Redevelopment Area Manager (ASM II)	\$81,214-\$99,724 per year	Open Until Filled	
Urban Economic Analyst III	\$4,581-\$5,624 per month	Open Until Filled	
Assistant Engineer I	\$3,883-\$4,766 per month	Continuous	
Librarian I	\$20.12-\$24.71 per hour	Continuous	
Police Officer Lateral	\$56,363-\$69,540 per year	Continuous	

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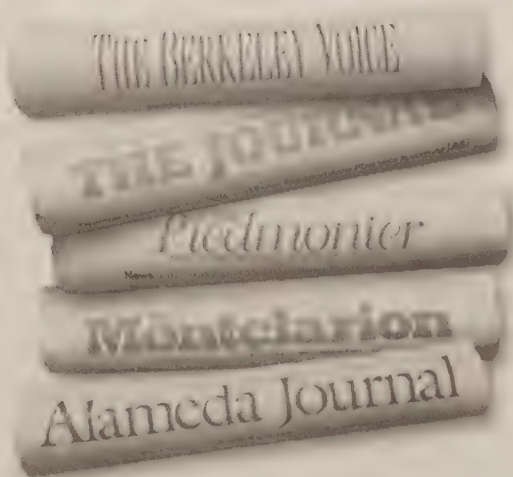
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Our neighborhood.



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JOHN DEERE:
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Compact tractors, New Available, 20 P.T.O. HP & up. New warranty. Low rate financing. 1-800-467-7140

KUBOTA tractor, 17 HP, 87100 HST, winch, 500, Billy Goat seat, 5 H.P. bags, \$250, 925-718-1010

803 Heavy Equipment

BOBCAT 2002 1200 Track machine w/straps, 143 hrs, \$39,500, (925) 997-7933

FORKLIFT Clark 141, 3000 lbs, \$250, (925) 985-1630

FORKLIFT Crown 40 order picker, battery, 1000, \$200, (925) 985-1630

FORKLITS, large selection of quality used forklifts, \$999 up, (925) 985-1630

7 FORKLITS L.P.G. & Elec. All in very good cond. Starting at \$2250 415-716-8666

KNICKLE Crane 35 ft., 5,500 cbs, stump grinder, 655 Vermeer, 415-716-8666

805 Vehicle Parts & Repair

ALLOY WHEELS 16" GMC, Perfect condition, \$200, (925) 754-7524

AUD 1987 GT Cab, 5 spd, 5 cyl, great mechanic, 1990, \$2500, (925) 985-1630

CHEVROLET 1970 Original bucket seats, 1000, \$2500, (925) 985-1630

GOODYEAR EAGLES 1974-75, 415-716-8666

JEOP 1963 Willys Part, outrolling chassis, 1970, \$2500, (925) 985-1630

LUMBER RACK, Brand new, 1980, \$2500, (925) 985-1630

1984 MAZDA RX7, AT, nice & clean, 1900, 415-716-8666

MERCEDES 450 SL, hard-top, 1980, 415-716-8666

OEI polished auto, white & tires for Dodge 2500, \$200, (925) 985-1630

PARTING OUT 1995 Range Rover, 1994 Camaro, 1997 Explorer, 1998 Legacy, 4WD, (925) 209-1819

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